STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

No. 19-cv-15941

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

TIMOTHY K. MOORE, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY OF SPEAKER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, et al.,

Defendants.

PLAINTIFFS' REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

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INTRODUCTION

Across 85 pages of briefing and hundreds more pages of exhibits, Defendants do not offer an iota of proof that disenfranchising North Carolinians on community supervision serves any legitimate purpose today. They present no expert testimony, fact witness testimony, or documentary evidence showing that disenfranchising such people advances any government interest. Instead of trying to establish some good reason for disenfranchising people on community supervision today, Defendants put forward state interests supporting certain procedural improvements made to the statutory scheme in the 1970s. But Plaintiffs do not challenge those aspects of the law in this case. Simply put, Defendants' briefs lay bare that there is no valid interest in denying the franchise to nearly 60,000 members of North Carolina communities who share the same concerns and interests in the public welfare as their neighbors.

Unable to justify disenfranchising these individuals, Defendants' arguments boil down to a combination of "because we can," "it used to be worse," "other states do it too," and "even if it is unlawful, there is nothing this Court can do about it." None of these arguments has merit.

As shown in Part I below, Defendants misstate the statute's history. The statutory disenfranchisement of people not incarcerated traces directly to the 1877 statutory scheme enacted with the goal of preventing African Americans from voting. Part II refutes Defendants' contentions that Plaintiffs lack standing and that this Court can grant no effective relief. The statute enacted by the General Assembly to implement the state constitutional provision on felony disenfranchisement must comport with other constitutional guarantees, and this Court has ample equitable authority to enjoin and sever unlawful aspects of the statute. On the merits, Parts III-VI establish that Defendants misapprehend the unique, broad rights that North Carolina guarantees under its Free Elections Clause, Equal Protection Clause, Freedom of Speech and Assembly Clauses, and Ban of Property Qualifications Clause. Defendants' arguments may be

plausible in other jurisdictions, but not in North Carolina. Part VII addresses Defendants' failure to satisfy any level of scrutiny. Strict scrutiny—or at least intermediate scrutiny—applies here given the challenged law's infringement upon fundamental constitutional rights, and Defendants have established no state interest that can justify the indiscriminate disenfranchisement of people on community supervision. Indeed, discovery obtained since Plaintiffs' opening brief makes clear that disenfranchising people on community supervision produces rampant confusion and administrative problems, all to the detriment of North Carolina residents and elections.

The material facts are undisputed, and Plaintiffs are entitled to summary judgment. But at a minimum, as explained in Part VIII below, a preliminary injunction is warranted so that nearly 60,000 North Carolinians are not irreparably prevented from voting in November 2020.

ARGUMENT

I. The Statutory Disenfranchisement of People Not Incarcerated Traces Directly to the General Assembly's Post-Civil War Efforts to Oppress African Americans

Defendants paint an incomplete and misleading history of North Carolina's statutory disenfranchisement scheme. The undeniable fact is that the current statutory scheme—including the disenfranchisement of people on community supervision—traces directly to legislation enacted after the Civil War to suppress the political power of African Americans.

In the 1860s and before, North Carolina disenfranchised only persons convicted of "infamous" crimes, not all felonies. Burton Report at 19-21. Immediately after the Civil War, former rebels in North Carolina engaged in a widespread campaign of convicting African Americans of "infamous" crimes and whipping them as the punishment, with the express goal of preventing African Americans from being able to vote. *Id*.

In 1876, to neuter the effects of the recently adopted Fifteenth Amendment,

Conservative-Democrats ratified North Carolina's constitutional amendment expanding the

crimes for which people could be disenfranchised to include felonies, not just "infamous" crimes. Burton Report at 27-35. In the following session of the General Assembly, the very next year, the General Assembly enacted implementing legislation. A Democrat named John Henderson chaired the House committee that prepared this 1877 legislation. *Id.* at 35-36. Henderson was an avid Jim Crow supporter who once presided over the lynching of three African Americans who were "paraded down Main Street … across the street from Henderson's house, and lynched before a 'bloodthirsty' mob of more than two thousand white citizens." *Id.*

There were three particularly noteworthy aspects of the 1877 statutory scheme that Henderson ushered into law. First, the General Assembly chose broadly to disenfranchise those convicted of *all* felonies, not just the most serious or election-specific crimes. Ch. 275, § 10, 1876 N.C. Sess. Laws. That is still the law today. Second, the General Assembly made it a crime for people with felony convictions to vote before their rights were restored, punishable by up to two years in prison. *Id.* § 62. That is still the law today. N.C.G.S. §§ 163-275, 15A-1340.17. Third, the 1877 statutory scheme required people to wait four years from the date of conviction before they could apply to have their rights restored. Pls.' Opening Br. ("Br.") 7. Thus, just like today, the statutory scheme adopted in 1877 extended disenfranchisement for a period after people were no longer incarcerated. In 1933, with African Americans blocked from voting through other means such as a literacy test and poll tax, the General Assembly shortened the wait time to seek rights restoration from four years to two. Ch. 242, 1933 N.C. Sess. Laws.

In 1971, the only two African American members of North Carolina's General Assembly—Representatives Joy Johnson and Henry Frye—set out to amend the disenfranchisement statute. They had two principal goals. First, they sought to remove procedural obstacles to rights restoration. This effort was partly successful; the 1971 legislation

removed certain requirements such as the need to have five character witnesses. Defs.' NOF, Exs. 1, 2. Second, the two legislators sought to re-enfranchise people with felony convictions as soon as they were *released from prison*. The original 1971 bill introduced by Representative Johnson would have restored rights upon the completion of a person's sentence, with no mention of probation or parole. 5/8/20 Decl. of Daniel F. Jacobson ("Jacobson Decl."), Ex. L. But that bill was reported unfavorably, and a substitute was introduced adding the phrase "including any period of probation or parole." *Id.* Representative Frye made clear in a speech on the House floor that the intent of the original bill had been to re-enfranchise people once they were no longer incarcerated. As reported at the time: "Rep. Henry Frye, D-Guilford, told the House he favored the bill's original proposal which called for automatic restoration of citizenship *when a felon had served his prison sentence.*" Defs.' NOF, Ex. 5 (emphasis added).

Defendants point to an answer by Senator Michaux at his deposition suggesting that the original 1971 bill could have disenfranchised people on probation or parole. LD Br. 4, 17; SBOE Br. 6. But Defendants neglect to mention that Senator Michaux was not in the General Assembly at the time and had no formal or informal involvement with the legislation—he was first elected in 1972. Defs.' NOF, Ex. 5 ("Michaux Dep.") at 44:15-22, 53:14-20. Senator Michaux was merely speculating, under questioning from counsel several hours into his deposition, as to the meaning of the original 1971 bill. The contemporaneous statement of one of the two legislators who drafted the original 1971 bill, Representative Frye, is unambiguous that the bill was intended to restore voting rights upon the completion of a "prison sentence."

But it is academic because, as Senator Michaux's testimony makes clear, African American legislators *wanted* to restore voting rights upon completion of a prison sentence and were stymied by civil rights opponents. By 1973, Senator Michaux had joined the General

Assembly, and he provided unrebutted testimony that his goal and that of Representatives Frye and Johnson in the 1973 amendments was again to restore people's voting rights upon their release from incarceration, "regardless of whether they had probation or parole." Michaux Dep. at 16-22 ("Q. And so your original aim, and that of the NAACP, was to restore voting rights automatically as soon as someone ... was released from prison, regardless of whether they had probation or parole. Is that correct? A. That's correct."); accord Jacobson Decl., Ex. K ("Michaux Aff.") ¶ 15. But civil rights opponents in the General Assembly insisted on continuing to disenfranchise people through probation and parole, and Senator Michaux agreed to keep that in the legislation in order to get further procedural reforms passed, such as removing the requirement to petition a judge for rights restoration. Michaux Aff. ¶¶ 10-19. Thus, as in 1971, the 1973 legislation removed procedural obstacles to re-enfranchisement, but fell short of the African American legislators' goal of limiting disenfranchisement to those incarcerated. *Id.*

This history makes clear that the current statutory scheme carries forward central aspects of the 1877 statute enacted by white supremacists. The current scheme continues to disenfranchise people for all felonies rather than a subset, it continues to criminalize voting before one's rights are restored with punishment of up to two years in prison, and it continues to disenfranchise people for a period of time even once they are not incarcerated. Indeed, before 1971 the required waiting period for rights restoration was two years, yet the average length of probation today is 2.5 years. Baumgartner Opening Report at 23. Functionally, therefore, the current requirement that people complete their community supervision before they can vote has the same effect as the required waiting period under the pre-1971 statutory scheme.

II. Plaintiffs Have Standing and This Court May Enjoin the Constitutional Violations

A. The General Assembly's Implementing Legislation on Felony Disenfranchisement Must Comport with Other Constitution Provisions

Defendants argue that Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 of the North Carolina Constitution is a self-executing provision that operates alone to disenfranchise all persons with felony convictions, and that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 merely restores people's rights. SBOE Br. 14-15; LD Br. 11-12.

According to Defendants, in the absence of any legislation regarding felony disenfranchisement, all North Carolinians with felony convictions would be disenfranchised for life. Defendants are wrong. Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 reflects a delegation of authority to the General Assembly to "prescribe[] by law" the contours of felony disenfranchisement, and legislation enacted by the General Assembly pursuant to this delegation must comport with all other provisions of the North Carolina Constitution. The history of Article VI and the maxim that constitutional provisions must be interpreted in harmony conclusively establish this interpretation.

For Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 to be "reconciled with other state constitutional guarantees."

Stephenson v. Bartlett, 355 N.C. 354, 371, 562 S.E.2d 377, 389 (2002), it must be interpreted as a delegation of authority to the General Assembly to enact a legislative scheme that comports with the rest of the Constitution. Because "all constitutional provisions must be read in pari materia," it is a bedrock principle in North Carolina that a constitutional provision "cannot be applied in isolation or in a manner that fails to comport with other requirements of the State Constitution." Stephenson, 355 N.C. at 377-78, 562 S.E.2d at 392, 394. Here, interpreting Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 as a self-executing provision that would impose across-the-board lifetime disenfranchisement absent implementing legislation would be incompatible with other provisions of the Constitution, including the Free Elections Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and the

Freedom of Speech and Assembly Clauses. It would disenfranchise for life millions and millions of North Carolinians, a grossly disproportionate number of whom are African Americans.

Stephenson v. Bartlett and Holmes v. Moore are on point. In Stephenson, the Supreme Court interpreted the Constitution's "Whole County Provision," which states that "[n]o county shall be divided in the formation of a ... district." N.C. Const., art. II, § 3(3). The Court declined to interpret this constitutional provision in a "strictly mechanical fashion" because doing so "would be inconsistent with other provisions of ... the State Constitution." Stephenson, 355 N.C. at 377-78, 381-82, 562 S.E.2d at 392-96. "[T]o avoid internal textual conflict" with North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause, the Court interpreted the Whole County Provision in a manner that upheld "the principles of substantially equal voting power and substantially equal legislative representation arising from that same Constitution." Id.; see also Jenkins v. State Bd. of Elecs., 180 N.C. 169, 104 S.E. 346, 349 (1920) ("A constitution should not receive a technical construction, as if it were an ordinary instrument or statute. It should be interpreted so as to carry out the general principles of the government and not defeat them.").

In *Holmes*, the Court of Appeals interpreted the constitutional provision stating that "[v]oters offering to vote in person shall present photographic identification before voting." N.C. Const. art. VI, §§ 2(4), 3(2). The Court of Appeals rejected Defendants' argument that this constitutional provision foreclosed challenges to the General Assembly's implementing legislation brought under other constitutional provisions, and the Court of Appeals held that the implementing legislation violated the Equal Protection Clause. 840 S.E.2d 244, 265-67 (N.C. Ct. App. 2020). As a result of the injunction against the legislation, North Carolinians will not be required to show photo identification before voting in 2020, even though the Constitution states

that "voters ... shall present photographic identification before voting." *Id.* The voter ID constitutional provision is like Article VI, § 2, cl. 3—both require implementing legislation.

The history of Article VI confirms this interpretation. "A court should look to the history" in interpreting a constitutional provision, *N.C. State Bd. of Educ. v. State*, 255 N.C. App. 514, 529, 805 S.E.2d 518, 527 (2017), *aff'd*, 371 N.C. 149, 814 S.E.2d 54 (2018), and throughout its history Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 has *always* been accompanied by implementing legislation. As explained above, the General Assembly enacted a statutory scheme providing for felony disenfranchisement and rights restoration in 1877, in the very first legislative session after ratification of the 1876 constitutional amendment. At no point in the 144 years since its adoption has Article VI, § 2, cl. 3 ever operated by its own force without implementing legislation.

In any event, implementing legislation *has* been enacted, and there can be no dispute that any statute enacted by the General Assembly must comport with all provisions of the North Carolina Constitution. Defendants admit as much when they concede that certain types of felony disenfranchisement statutes would violate the Constitution. SBOE Br. 22; LD Br. 14-15. And *Stephenson* and *Holmes* make clear that implementing legislation authorized under one constitutional provision is subject to the normal legal standards and scrutiny that apply under other constitutional provisions. In both cases, the courts applied the normal tests for evaluating whether legislation enacted by the General Assembly violated North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause. *Stephenson*, 355 N.C. at 389, 562 S.E.2d at 394 (applying strict scrutiny where redistricting deprived a group of citizens of "substantially equal voting power"); *Holmes*, 840 S.E.2d at 255 (evaluating whether race was a "motivating factor" in implementing legislation).

These precedents also refute Defendants' suggestion that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 is necessarily subject to rational basis review in light of Article VI, § 2, cl. 3. Even if the statutory

VI, the statute still impinges upon other constitutional rights and thus at least intermediate scrutiny would apply. For instance, in *Blankenship v. Bartlett*, the Supreme Court harmonized the Constitution's delegation of authority to the General Assembly to create a "convenient number" of superior court districts with the Equal Protection Clause guarantee of substantially equal voting power. 363 N.C. 518, 523-25, 681 S.E.2d 759, 763-75 (2009). To reconcile the "internal conflict" between these two constitutional provisions, and because the dispute over judicial elections had "a component that implicates the fundamental right to vote and a separate component that is ordinarily the province of the legislature," the Court held that intermediate scrutiny was warranted where a judicial districting plan created different voting power between groups of citizens. *Id.* Here, at a minimum, intermediate scrutiny is warranted if the legislation enacted pursuant to Article VI is in tension with the rights protected under the Free Elections Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Freedom of Speech and Association Clauses.

B. The Court May Enjoin the Unconstitutional Aspects of the Statute

Defendants contend that this Court lacks authority to enjoin portions of N.C.G.S § 13-1 to afford Plaintiffs the relief they seek. State Board Defendants frame the issue as one of standing, SBOE Br. 14-16, while Legislative Defendants focus on courts' remedial authority, LD Br. 31-33. These arguments run headlong into controlling precedent and foundational principles.

Plaintiffs seek an injunction preventing the disenfranchisement of North Carolinians on probation, parole, or supervised release, *see* Am. Compl., Prayer for Relief, and such relief is well within this Court's power. "Trial courts have broad discretion to fashion equitable remedies to protect innocent parties when injustice would otherwise result." *Kinlaw v. Harris*, 364 N.C. 528, 532-33, 702 S.E.2d 294, 297 (2010). "This discretion includes the power to 'grant, deny, limit, or shape' relief as necessary to achieve equitable results." *Id.* Under these powers, this

Court can fashion injunctive relief to remedy a partially unconstitutional statute. The Court may order that "the portion which is constitutional may stand while that which is unconstitutional is stricken out." *State v. Fredell*, 283 N.C. 242, 245, 195 S.E.2d 300, 302 (1973).

The Court of Appeals recently exercised such remedial authority in *State v. Hilton*, a case analogous to this one. There, plaintiffs challenged a statute providing that, if certain conditions are met, "the court shall order the offender to enroll in satellite-based monitoring *for life*."

N.C.G.S. § 14-208.40B(c) (emphasis added). The Court of Appeals held that it is permissible to impose satellite-based monitoring during a person's post-release supervision, but that monitoring after such supervision "is no longer reasonable." *Hilton*, — S.E.2d —, 2020 WL 2529538, at *2-5 (N.C. Ct. App. May 19, 2020). The Court of Appeals enjoined the "for life" language and found it severable, holding that the monitoring requirement could instead be enforced for a shorter duration. *Id.* at *2. Echoing Defendants' arguments here, the dissent objected that "the majority does not merely strike through 'for life' but also adds a wholly different temporal frame, 'so long as the offender is on post-release supervision' or some equivalent, to the statute in question." *Id.* at *16 (Brook, J., concurring in part and dissenting in part). The dissent accused the majority of improperly "rewriting the statute," *id.*, but the majority rejected this concern.

Just as in *Hilton*, this Court may enjoin the "temporal frame" of N.C.G.S § 13-1. The Court can and should hold that, while the statute may deny voting rights to persons in prison, it may not disenfranchise people living in North Carolina communities on supervision. Put differently, for a "probationer" or a "parolee," the Court can enjoin the requirement that the person must receive an "unconditional discharge" to have their voting rights restored. Such an injunction falls comfortably within the Court's discretionary remedial authority.

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¹ Under N.C.G.S. § 13-1(1), a "parolee" includes a person on post-release supervision. The provision was enacted before North Carolina switched from a system of parole to post-release supervision in 1994.

Defendants' argument that this Court could only "enjoin the automatic restoration of citizenship rights" for everyone, SBOE Br. 15, or could only order a remedy that involves striking through specific words in the statute, SBOE Br. 15; LD Br. 31, contradicts decades of civil rights precedent. The U.S. Supreme Court's decisions finding gender-based equal protection violations, for example, have regularly ordered remedies that expand a statute to cover an improperly excluded class, rather than enjoining the statute altogether. For example, after finding that a statute extending financial benefits to children of an unemployed "father" was unconstitutional, the Supreme Court did not hold that no one got benefits, but extended the statute to cover children of unemployed mothers as well. Califano v. Westcott, 443 U.S. 76, 80, 92-93 (1979) (affirming district court decision "ordering that 'father' be replaced by its genderneutral equivalent"); accord, e.g., Frontiero v. Richardson, 411 U.S. 677 (1973) (extending statute conferring discretionary benefit on men to confer that benefit on women as well). Similarly, after finding that a disability program and a food stamp program unlawfully excluded particular classes of individuals, the Supreme Court extended the programs to the wrongfully excluded classes. Jimenez v. Weinberger, 417 U.S. 628, 630-631 & n.2, 637-638 (1974); Dep't of Agriculture v. Moreno, 413 U.S. 528, 529-530, 538 (1973). In none of these cases did the Court's ability to provide effective relief depend on whether such relief could be accomplished by striking through a particular word or phrase, as Defendants suggest. SBOE Br. 15; LD Br. 32.

Even if it were necessary to perform a technical strikethrough exercise (and it is not), this Court could afford effective relief by simply enjoining the term "unconditional" throughout N.C.G.S § 13-1. Subsection (1) would then provide that voting rights are restored upon the "discharge of an inmate, of a probationer, or of a parolee," where the "discharge" of a probationer or parolee means the release of a person by a court or the Department of Public

Safety (DPS) onto community supervision. Indeed, the "discharge" of a probationer or parolee under § 13-1 cannot mean the termination of their community supervision, because otherwise the term "unconditional" before "discharge" would have no import for probationers and parolees.²

Finally, Defendants contend that N.C.G.S. § 13-1's disenfranchisement of people on community supervision is not severable from the remainder of the statute. SBOE Br. 16; LD Br. 33. Based on this theory, they assert that the only appropriate remedy in this case would be to invalidate *all* of § 13-1, which, in Defendants' view, would result in *lifetime* disenfranchisement of the millions of North Carolinians with felony convictions. SBOE Br. 16-17, 50. Defendants are wrong that enjoining all of § 13-1 would have this extreme consequence, but this Court need not reach the question because the challenged portions of § 13-1 are plainly severable.

"Generally speaking, when confronting a constitutional flaw in a statute," courts should "limit the solution to the problem, severing any problematic portions while leaving the remainder intact." *Free Enter. Fund v. Pub. Co. Accounting Oversight Bd.*, 561 U.S. 477, 508 (2010) (quotation marks omitted). Under North Carolina law, courts must sever where "the remaining provisions are operative and sufficient to accomplish their proper purpose." *Fredell*, 283 N.C. at 245, 195 S.E.2d at 302; *accord Fulton Corp. v. Faulkner*, 345 N.C. 419, 422, 481 S.E.2d 8, 9 (1997) ("[I]f the separate parts of the statute are not so interrelated and mutually dependent that one part cannot be enforced without reference to another, the offending part must be severed and the rest of the statute enforced."). Where this standard is met, a court must sever regardless of

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² Another alternative option would be to enjoin everything in N.C.G.S. § 13-1 after "automatically restored," such that voting rights are immediately restored to all persons convicted of felonies. This particular remedy is not necessary given the Court's ability to enjoin only the statute's withholding of rights from people on community supervision, but as between restoring voting rights to everyone or nobody, the African American legislators who led the 1970s amendments to § 13-1 plainly would have preferred the former.

whether the statute has a severability clause. *See, e.g.*, *Hilton*, 2020 WL 2529538, at *2; *ACLU of N.C. v. Conti*, 835 F. Supp. 2d 51, 62 (E.D.N.C. 2011).

Here, if the Court enjoins the disenfranchisement of people on community supervision, N.C.G.S § 13-1's denial of voting rights to people in prison can continue to operate as it always has. Disenfranchising people in prison is not "mutually dependent" on, or inextricably bound to, disenfranchising people on community supervision. *Fulton Corp.*, 345 N.C. at 422, 481 S.E.2d at 9. And it is plain that the General Assembly that enacted and amended § 13-1 would have wanted to deny voting rights to people in prison even if people on community supervision could vote. As described above, that was the original goal of the legislators who introduced the 1970s amendments. Conversely, even if it were permissible to permanently disenfranchise everyone with a felony conviction (and it is not), the General Assembly could not possibly have preferred such a draconian scheme to simply restoring rights for people on community supervision.

In short, this Court has ample authority and discretion to afford the relief that Plaintiffs seek. The Court should reject Defendants' efforts to elevate form over substance to deny relief to 60,000 members of North Carolina communities who are now locked out of democracy.

III. N.C.G.S. § 13-1's Disenfranchisement of People on Community Supervision Violates the North Carolina Constitution's Free Election Clause

Defendants do not dispute that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 prevents nearly 60,000 people living in North Carolina communities from voting. Nor do they deny that, in at least nine counties, more than 1% of the total voting-age population is disenfranchised by virtue of being on community supervision. Br. 25. And they do not deny that, in 19 counties, more than 2% of the African American voting-age population is on community supervision and thus cannot vote. *Id.* at 27.

What's more, Defendants do not contest that N.C.G.S. § 13-1's disenfranchisement of people on community supervision may have swung the outcome of numerous elections. *Id.* at

28-29. It is thus undisputed that the disenfranchisement of people on community supervision may frequently prevent the will of North Carolina communities from prevailing in elections.

Defendants' attempts to preserve this undemocratic scheme rest on erroneous theories of the Free Elections Clause. State Board Defendants contend that a plaintiff may not challenge "the composition of the electorate" under the Free Elections Clause. SBOE Br. 20. But State Board Defendants' own recounting of the Free Elections Clause's history and purpose belies that assertion. As they explain, the free elections clause in the English Bill of Rights, on which North Carolina's provision is modeled, was designed to address the King's efforts to "manipulat[e] the composition of the electorate by expanding or shrinking the electorate." *Id.* at 17 (quotation marks omitted). State Board Defendants' suggestion that the Free Election Clause does not prohibit laws altering "the composition of the electorate" thus conflicts with its central purpose.

State Board Defendants' reading of the Clause would also have startling consequences. In their view, any restriction on who constitutes a "qualified voter" would comply with the Free Elections Clause, because the Clause purportedly protects only "qualified voters." SBOE Br. 20. State Board Defendants openly admit that, under this position, a statutory scheme that restored voting rights only to members of one "race, sex, or religion ... would *not* violate the Free Elections Clause." Id. at 22 (emphasis added). That statement alone requires rejecting their view. Courts should not endorse any theory under which the Free Elections Clause would permit the General Assembly to disenfranchise all African Americans, all women, or all Muslims.³

State Board Defendants suggest that Plaintiffs are claiming a Free Election Clause right to vote for "all people living in North Carolina communities," including "non-citizens, citizens

³ State Board Defendants assert that a law disenfranchising people with felony convictions based on race, gender, or religion "may" violate other constitutional provisions, and thus they contend that it would be "superfluous" if such a law violated the Free Elections Clause as well. SBOE 22. But of course statutes can and often do violate multiple constitutional provisions. See, e.g., Common Cause v. Lewis, 2019 WL 4569584 (N.C. Super. Sept. 3, 2019).

under 18 years of age, [and] persons who have not resided in the state for a sufficient period before the election." SBOE Br. 20. That is incorrect. The Free Elections Clause prohibits the General Assembly from obstructing the will of the people who share an interest in the State's welfare and "humane, economic, ideological, and political concerns," and for whom no compelling government interest justifies their exclusion from the electorate. Br. 30-31 (quoting *Texfi Indus., Inc. v. City of Fayetteville,* 301 N.C. 1, 13, 269 S.E.2d 142, 150 (1980) and *Roberts v. Cannon,* 20 N.C. 398, 4 Dev. & Bat. (Orig. Ed.) 256, 260-61 (1839)). That does not include non-citizens, minors, and people who have not lived in the State for a month.

State Board Defendants argue that it is "doubtful" the Framers of the Free Elections
Clause intended to promote the will of *all* members of the community because they excluded slaves, women, and non-property owners from the franchise. SBOE Br. 19. But the Free Elections Clause establishes the *principle* that elections must reflect the "will of the people," even if its Framers held antiquated views about who constitutes "the people." *Compare* U.S. Const., Preamble ("We the People"). Just as we now recognize that women and African Americans are part of "the people" who may express their will at the ballot box, it is time to recognize that so too are North Carolinians on community supervision.

Legislative Defendants argue that Plaintiffs' Free Elections Clause claim fails because people on community supervision purportedly do not "enjoy the ... fundamental right to vote." LD Br. 20. As explained *infra* pp. 18-19, their premise is wrong. But the question is of no moment here, because the Free Elections Clause protects not only the individual right of a voter to cast his or her ballot, but the *collective* right of the people to elections that properly reflect their will. State Board Defendants recognize this distinction, explaining that "the Free Elections Clause guarantees a different 'fundamental' right—to have elections conducted freely and

honestly to ascertain, fairly and truthfully, the will of the people." SBOE Br. 23 (quotation marks omitted). For example, in *Common Cause v. Lewis*, the challenged redistricting plans did not prevent any individual person from voting, but the plans still violated the Free Elections Clause because they led to election results that did not reflect the collective will of the people. 2019 WL 4569584, at *108-12. The challenged disenfranchisement scheme here infringes the right shared by disenfranchised and non-disenfranchised people alike—including NC NAACP's 20,000-plus members—to be governed by leaders chosen according to the will of the people.

Defendants do not deny that the right under the Free Elections Clause to elections reflecting the will of the people is a "fundamental right." *Common Cause*, 2019 WL 4569584, at *110. Nor do they contest that, if disenfranchising people on community supervision infringes that collective right, strict scrutiny applies. And as described *infra* pp. 28-35, disenfranchising people on community supervision cannot satisfy strict scrutiny, or indeed any level of scrutiny.

IV. N.C.G.S. § 13-1's Disenfranchisement of People on Community Supervision Violates the North Carolina Constitution's Equal Protection Clause

A. The Law Imposes Classifications Depriving North Carolinians of the Fundamental Right to Substantially Equal Voting Power

Defendants acknowledge that classifications involving a "fundamental right" are subject to strict scrutiny under North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause. SBOE Br. 24; LD Br. 29. But they ignore the fundamental right at the center of Plaintiffs' equal protection claim—the fundamental right to "substantially equal voting power and substantially equal legislative representation," which the North Carolina Supreme Court has held is a uniquely protected right under Article I, § 19. *Stephenson*, 355 N.C. at 382, 562 S.E.2d at 396. Heightened scrutiny applies under North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause whenever a challenged statute draws a "distinction among similarly situated citizens" that deprives one group of citizens of substantially equal voting power relative to the other. *Stephenson*, 355 N.C. at 377-78, 562 S.E.2d at 393-94.

Neither set of Defendants addresses the equal protection right of similarly situated North Carolinians to "substantially equal voting power" anywhere in their briefs.

Defendants instead focus on whether each individual with a felony conviction maintains a "fundamental right to vote" as that phrase has been used in federal jurisprudence. SBOE Br. 24-26; LD Br. 20. But the right to substantially equal voting power under the North Carolina Constitution focuses on classifications that affect the *relative* voting power of similarly situated groups of citizens. Whether each individual in each group, standing alone, maintains a personal "fundamental right to vote" is not determinative. For instance, in *Blankenship*, an individual's right to elect judges was not a fundamental right, but the Court still applied heightened scrutiny because the challenged judicial districts created a "disparity in voting power between similarly situated residents of Wake County." 363 N.C. at 527, 681 S.E.2d at 766. And King ex rel. Harvey-Barrow v. Beaufort County Board of Education, 364 N.C. 368, 704 S.E.2d 259 (2010), though not a voting rights case, is also analogous. There, the Supreme Court held that even though a suspended student does not have a "fundamental right to alternative education ... under the state constitution," heightened scrutiny still applied where the State provided alternative education to some suspended students but not others, because there is a constitutional right "to equal education access" across students. King, 364 N.C. at 373, 377, 704 S.E.2d at 261, 265.

A felony disenfranchisement statute like N.C.G.S. § 13-1 thus can impermissibly deprive similarly situated groups of substantially equal power regardless of whether each individual has a fundamental right to vote. If the General Assembly prescribed that only people with felony convictions over 50 years old can vote—or only those who were registered to vote before their conviction—heightened scrutiny would apply because the scheme affords differential voting power to similarly situated groups of people. N.C.G.S. § 13-1 creates such classifications as

well. The statute deprives substantially equal voting power to the group of people on community supervision relative to similarly situated groups of people, including those with felony convictions who have finished their community supervision. The people in both groups have felony convictions, both live and work in their communities after having been deemed by the State fit to return to society, but one group has voting power and the other has none. For this reason, the challenged law is subject to heightened scrutiny. *Stephenson*, 355 N.C. at 377-78, 562 S.E.2d at 393-94; *Blankenship*, 363 N.C. at 527-28, 681 S.E.2d at 766.

In any event, contrary to Defendants' position, individuals on community supervision do personally maintain a fundamental right to vote. Defendants assert that there is "no support or reasoning" for affording such individuals this fundamental right. SBOE Br. 26. Of course there is. "The right to vote is the right to participate in the decision-making process of government" among all those "sharing an identity with the broader humane, economic, ideological, and political concerns of the human body politic." *Texfi Indus.*, 301 N.C. at 13, 269 S.E.2d at 150. People on community supervision share the same concerns as everyone else living in their communities. These individuals are our neighbors, our friends, our family members, our coworkers, members of our churches. As State Board Defendants recognize, people on community supervision "are subject to the laws enacted and enforced within our communities." SBOE Br. 32. North Carolinians on community supervision thus share in the State's "public burthens" and "feel an interest in its welfare." *Roberts*, 4 Dev. & Bat. (Orig. Ed.) at 260-61.

Defendants argue that "the U.S. Supreme Court" and "federal appellate courts" have held that "the right to vote by people who have been convicted of felonies is not fundamental" under the U.S. Constitution. SBOE Br. 24-25 (collecting cases). But as this Court reaffirmed last year, it is "beyond dispute" that "North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause provides greater protection

for voting rights than federal equal protection provisions." *Common Cause*, 2019 WL 4569584, at *113 (citing cases). Simply put, this Court need not follow federal precedent refusing to recognize a fundamental federal right to vote for people with felony convictions.

It does not matter that the U.S. Constitution "implicitly" authorizes States to "exclu[de] felons from the vote," barring Fourteenth Amendment challenges to disenfranchisement laws. SBOE Br. 24 (quoting *Richardson v. Ramirez*, 418 U.S. 24, 54 (1974)). The U.S. Constitution *explicitly* authorizes States to draw congressional districts, U.S. Const., art. I, § 4, cl. 1, and the U.S. Supreme Court has held that challenges to States' redistricting plans are not even cognizable under the Fourteenth Amendment, *Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2484, 2507-08 (2019). Nevertheless, a three-judge panel of this Court held last year that North Carolina's congressional redistricting plan violated North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause, and enjoined the plan. Order on Inj. Relief, *Harper v. Lewis*, CVS 012667 (N.C. Super. Oct. 28, 2019). The U.S. Constitution's explicit delegation of power to the state legislature to draw the congressional plan did not insulate it from judicial review under North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause. The same is true with respect to this Court's review of N.C.G.S. § 13-1.

Nor does it matter that the North Carolina Constitution authorizes the General Assembly to regulate felony disenfranchisement. SBOE Br. 26. *Holmes* is again instructive. Even though the North Carolina Constitution states that people must have photo ID to vote in person, the Court of Appeals held that the statute restricted "fundamental voting rights" of people who lack photo ID. *Holmes*, 840 S.E.2d at 266. In other words, even though the North Carolina Constitution permits the General Assembly to prevent people without a qualifying photo ID from voting, those people still possess the fundamental right to vote. The same is true with respect to people living in North Carolina's communities on supervision following a felony conviction.

B. The Law Has the Impermissible Intent and Effect of Disproportionately Disenfranchising African Americans

As Defendants acknowledge, regardless of whether a fundamental right is at stake, strict scrutiny independently applies when a classification "disadvantage[s] ... a suspect class." SBOE Br. 24 (quoting *Liebes v. Guilford Cty. Dep't of Pub. Health*, 213 N.C. App. 426, 428-29, 713 S.E.2d 546, 549 (2011)); *see also* LD Br. 24. Race is a suspect class, and thus if N.C.G.S. § 13-1 intentionally discriminates against African Americans, strict scrutiny applies.

Under North Carolina's Equal Protection Clause, "[w]hen considering whether discriminatory intent motivates a facially neutral law, a court must undertake a 'sensitive inquiry into such circumstantial and direct evidence of intent as may be available." *Holmes*, 840 S.E.2d at 254 (quoting *Vill. of Arlington Heights v. Metro. Hous. Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252, 266 (1977)). "Challengers need not show that discriminatory purpose was the 'sole' or even a 'primary' motive for the legislation, just that it was 'a motivating factor." *Id.* at 254-55 (quoting same) (cleaned up). "Discriminatory purpose 'may often be inferred from the totality of the relevant facts, including the fact, if it is true, that the law bears more heavily on one race than another." *Id.* at 255 (quoting same). Relevant circumstances include: (1) "the historical background of the challenged [policy]"; (2) "the specific sequence of events leading up to the challenged [policy]"; (3) "departures from normal procedural sequence"; (4) "the legislative history of the decision"; and (5) "of course, the disproportionate impact of the official action—whether it bears more heavily on one race than another." *Id.* (citation and internal quotation marks omitted).

Starting with the final factor, the law here disproportionately disenfranchises African Americans in the extreme. As detailed in Plaintiffs' opening brief, African Americans comprise 21.51% of the voting-age population in North Carolina, but 42.43% of those disenfranchised while on community supervision. Br. 44-45. State Board Defendants admit that "there are racial

disparities in the population of North Carolinians who are serving probation or parole sentences or who are under post-release supervision for a felony conviction." SBOE Br. 34.

Nevertheless, relying on Legislative Defendants' expert Dr. Callanan, Defendants contend that "it is not North Carolina's policy of re-enfranchisement that leads to disproportionate exclusion from the franchise among certain voters in North Carolina; instead, it is the outcomes arising out of the criminal justice system that lead to such disproportionate representation." SBOE Br. 34; see LD Br. 19 (similar). Setting aside that Dr. Callanan's report and testimony should be excluded under Rule 702, the Court should reject his profoundly flawed view that African Americans are "not disenfranchised at disproportionately high rates in North Carolina" because the "racial ... disparities in disenfranchisement are simply a function of the racial ... composition of the felon population in North Carolina." Callanan Report at 2-3. Under this circular analysis, no facially race-neutral law could ever have a racially disparate impact. A literacy test could be upheld on the theory that it disenfranchised "100% of [individuals] of every race" who could not pass the test. That is not how disparate impact analysis works. See Holmes, 840 S.E.2d at 262. The General Assembly has enacted a law disenfranchising people on community supervision, and that law disproportionately disenfranchises African Americans. That is quintessential disparate impact. See, e.g., Hunter v. Underwood, 471 U.S. 222, 227 (1985) (describing disparate impact of facially neutral felony disenfranchisement law).

Other *Arlington Heights* factors confirm the challenged law's intent to disenfranchise African Americans. First, the "historical background" of this law centers on violent white supremacy and a racist aim to prevent African Americans from voting. There is no dispute that this law is part of an extensive "historical pattern of laws" targeting African Americans' voting rights. *Holmes*, 840 S.E.2d at 257; *see*, *e.g.*, Br. 9. State Board Defendants admit that "North

Carolina's history with racial discrimination, particularly in voting, is well documented." SBOE Br. 36. And the specific history of using criminal convictions to disenfranchise North Carolinians is unequivocally and unabashedly racist. *See supra* pp. 2-5; Br. 4-12.

Seeking to paper over this law's grounding in white supremacy, Defendants contend that the legislative changes in 1971 and 1973 were not racist. SBOE Br. 35; LD Br. 15-18. But history did not begin in the 1970s. The policy of disenfranchising people with felony convictions who are not incarcerated was adopted in the *1870s*, not the 1970s. *See supra* pp. 2-3.

Second, "the specific sequence of events leading up to the challenged [policy]" includes the racist expansion of criminal disenfranchisement to prevent African Americans from voting after the Civil War. This white supremacist campaign began with the systematic whipping of African Americans in the 1860s to render them "infamous" and thus unable to vote. Then came the enactment of a constitutional amendment expanding disenfranchisement to all felonies. Such disenfranchisement was then implemented via enactment of a statutory scheme in 1877.

Finally, "legislative history" reinforces the law's discriminatory intent. Defendants analyze the statutory scheme as if it was first adopted in 1971. SBOE Br. 34-35; LD Br. 16. It was not. The legislative history is that proud proponents of Jim Crow led the 1877 enactment of the statutory scheme that carries forward to this day in critical respects, including by prolonging disenfranchisement for non-incarcerated individuals. As explained, African American legislators who led the 1970s amendments wanted to eliminate this aspect of the statutory scheme, but they were unable to. *See supra* pp. 3-5. Just as with the felony disenfranchisement law in *Hunter v*. *Underwood*, changes to the statute "occurring in the succeeding ... years" since its enactment do not wipe out the law's original intent. 471 U.S. at 232-33. Regardless of whether N.C.G.S. § 13-1 "would be valid if enacted today without any impermissible motivation, ... its original

enactment was motivated by a desire to discriminate against blacks on account of race and the section continues to this day to have that effect." *Id.* at 233; *see also Ramos v. Louisiana*, 140 S. Ct. 1390, 1410 (2020) (Sotomayor, J., concurring) ("[W]here a legislature actually confronts a law's tawdry past in reenacting it[,] the new law may well be free of discriminatory taint," but "[t]hat cannot be said of the laws at issue here.").

If the Court concludes that this law "was likely motivated by discriminatory intent, the burden shifts to Defendants 'to demonstrate that the law would have been enacted without this factor." *Holmes*, 840 S.E.2d at 264-65 (quoting *North Carolina State Conference of NAACP v. McCrory*, 831 F.3d 204, 221 (4th Cir. 2016)). But neither State Board Defendants nor Legislative Defendants even attempt to argue that they could carry this burden. For good reason. It is apparent that North Carolina's statutory disenfranchisement of people convicted of all felonies even while they live in the community would never have come to pass but-for an explicitly racist effort to prevent African Americans from voting. Thus, Plaintiffs' showing of discriminatory intent under the *Arlington Heights* factors is dispositive.

C. The Law Imposes an Impermissible Wealth-Based Classification

N.C.G.S. § 13-1 also triggers strict scrutiny under the Equal Protection Clause because, in denying voting rights to some individuals based solely on their failure to pay financial obligations accompanying a conviction, the statute creates a wealth-based classification that denies substantially equal voting power to poor persons. Br. 46-48.

Defendants assert that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 does not facially impose a classification "on the basis of wealth." SBOE Br. 39; *see* LD Br. 26-27. But on its face, § 13-1 requires a person to obtain an "unconditional discharge" before the person can vote, and failing to pay financial obligations is a basis on which a person may be denied an "unconditional discharge." As between two identically situated probationers who owe the same amount of money, the one who

can afford to pay will receive an unconditional discharge while the one without sufficient means may not. That is a wealth-based classification, plain and simple.

Defendants stress that North Carolina law merely "authorizes, but does not require, a court to extend the period of probation," and thus "the period of probation is not necessarily extended for a failure to pay such a financial obligation." SBOE Br. 40. But by default under North Carolina law, every probationer owes some form of financial obligation, and the only way for a probationer to *ensure* that his or her probation is not extended is to pay those obligations. It does not matter whether "every person who has an outstanding financial obligation will have their supervision period extended," as Defendants contend. *Id.* What matters is that every probationer *could* have their supervision extended based on unpaid financial obligations, and thus every probationer must pay those obligations to ensure they regain the right to vote.

State Board Defendants contend that Plaintiffs should have brought "an as-applied challenge" solely on behalf of "indigent people who are, in fact, precluded from reenfranchisement based on their inability to pay court fees, costs, and restitution." SBOE Br. 41. But nothing required Plaintiffs to bring such an as-applied claim or to limit the relief they seek only to "indigent people" who are unable to pay their financial obligations.

A law is facially invalid under equal protection principles "whenever it makes the affluence of the voter *or payment of any fee* an electoral standard." *Harper v. Virginia Bd. of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663, 666 (1966) (emphasis added). In *Harper*, the U.S. Supreme Court *facially* invalidated Virginia's poll tax of \$1.50. The law was invalid as to *all* citizens, the Court explained, regardless of "whether the citizen . . . has \$1.50 in his pocket or nothing at all, pays the fee or fails to pay it." *Id.* at 668. The Court explained that "a system which excludes those unable to pay a fee to vote or who fail to pay" is facially unconstitutionally because it makes

wealth a condition of voting for everyone, including those with means. *Id.* Thus, while State Board Defendants emphasize that "the actual plaintiffs" in *Harper* were unable to pay the poll tax, SBOE Br. 41, the Supreme Court struck down the poll tax in its entirety, not only as to the actual plaintiffs. Under Defendants' view, states might permissibly impose a poll tax on people able to pay it. That is plainly not the law. Like the poll tax in *Harper*, N.C.G.S § 13-1's requirement that every probationer pay financial obligations to ensure their rights are restored is facially invalid as to all probationers, not only those who are unable to pay or who do not pay.

Defendants point out that North Carolina "generally authorize[s]" courts to consider a person's ability to pay in deciding whether to waive financial obligations accompanying a conviction. LD Br. 8, 27. But according to the North Carolina Administrative Office of Courts' 2019 Report on Criminal Cost Waivers, courts waived such financial obligations last year in only a miniscule fraction of cases. Statewide, financial obligations were "Waived" in 28,036 cases, "Partially Waived" in 392 cases, and "Not Waived" in 848,375 cases. *See* 8/17/20 Decl. of Daniel F. Jacobson ("Jacobson Reply Decl."), Ex. 9 at 9. Such an insignificant waiver rate hardly reduces the burden on North Carolinians forced to pay financial obligations to vote.

State Board Defendants dispute that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 was "intentionally designed to prevent low-wealth people who had completed their felony sentences from voting." SBOE Br. 42. Plaintiffs cited evidence of intentional wealth-based discrimination, Br. 48, but it is irrelevant because wealth discrimination claims have no intent requirement. Br. 47-48 (citing cases). Defendants do not dispute that legal contention, waiving any argument to the contrary.

V. N.C.G.S. § 13-1's Disenfranchisement of People on Community Supervision Violates the North Carolina Constitution's Freedom of Speech and Assembly Clauses

Defendants do not deny that voting is core political expression protected by North Carolina's Freedom of Speech Clause. Br. 49. Nor do they deny that registering to vote with a

political party is a form of political association protected by the Freedom of Assembly Clause. *Id.* at 50. And they do not deny that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 bans people on community supervision from engaging in such political expression and association. SBOE Br. 43-45; LD Br. 29-30.

To justify depriving North Carolinians on community supervision of these rights,

Defendants repeat their argument that these individuals purportedly do not have a "fundamental right to vote." LD Br. 29; SBOE Br. 43-44. But none of the out-of-state cases Defendants rely upon for that proposition, *e.g.*, SBOE Br. 25, address the speech or associational components of voting and registering to vote. They cite no support for the notion that people on community supervision somehow enjoy lesser speech and association rights than everyone else in society.

State Board Defendants assert that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 does not discriminate against speech based on its content or viewpoint. SBOE Br. 45. But this law is content-based because it restricts speech based on its "subject matter"—namely, supporting a candidate in an election. *Barr v. Am. Ass'n of Political Consultants*, 140 S. Ct. 2335, 2346 (2020). In any event, free speech rights guard against more than just content and viewpoint discrimination. The State also cannot ban speech based on "the identity of the speaker," *Sorrell v. IMS Health Inc.*, 564 U.S. 552, 567 (2011), and that is precisely what N.C.G.S. § 13-1 does.⁴

VI. N.C.G.S. § 13-1's Disenfranchisement of People on Community Supervision Violates the North Carolina Constitution's Ban on Property Qualifications

Defendants do not deny that money is property subject to Article I, § 11's ban on property qualifications. SBOE Br. 45-48; LD Br. 30-31. Nor could they. The Supreme Court

omitted). The district court's decision was stayed (over a dissent) and ultimately vacated on mootness grounds due to the passage of Florida's constitutional amendment on felony disenfranchisement.

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⁴ State Board Defendants assert that they are not aware of any court "that has recognized a free speech or assembly claim for the denial of the franchise to individuals who are not guaranteed voting rights under the state constitution." SBOE Br. 44. But *Hand v. Scott*, 285 F. Supp. 3d 1289 (N.D. Fla. 2018), held that "voting is . . . a form of speech," that people with felony convictions maintain "the right to free association and expression," and that Florida's statutory scheme violated those people's free speech and association rights. *Id.* at 1295, 1298-99 (quotation marks

has held that "property" under this Clause is "not confined to tangible property," but rather "[i]n its most general sense" "embraces every thing which a man may have exclusive dominion over," including financial assets. *Wilson v. City of Charlotte*, 74 N.C. 748, 755-56 (1876).

State Board Defendants also "do not dispute that it may be an unconstitutional property qualification to require a person convicted of a felony to pay money ... as a necessary condition to regaining the franchise." SBOE Br. 47. But Defendants insist that N.C.G.S. § 13-1 does not violate the Ban on Property Qualifications Clause because the statute purportedly "does not speak to financial obligations." SBOE Br. 46; *see* LD Br. 30-31. State Board Defendants assert that it is "other statutes" that impose "costs, fees, and restitution" as conditions of probation and permit courts to extend probation for failure to pay such financial obligations. SBOE Br. 47.

This argument mischaracterizes Plaintiffs' claims. Plaintiffs do not challenge the constitutionality of the statutes requiring payment of financial obligations as conditions of community supervision, nor do Plaintiffs challenge the State's ability to extend probation for failure to pay such obligations. Plaintiffs instead challenge the North Carolina law that ties voting-rights restoration to the payment of financial obligations. It is N.C.G.S. § 13-1, not any other statute, that bars individuals from voting when they have failed to receive an "unconditional discharge" from community supervision because of their failure to pay money.

Defendants argue that Plaintiffs have not identified specific individuals on extended probation for failure to pay financial obligations. SBOE Br. 48; LD Br. 31. That is both incorrect and irrelevant. It is incorrect because Plaintiff Henry Harrison attested that he has had probation extended previously for failure to pay. Jacobson Decl., Ex. C ("Harrison Decl.") ¶ 10. And Defendants have not contested the organizational Plaintiffs' standing based on their diversion of resources to educate people about the need to pay financial obligations to regain

voting rights. *E.g.*, Jacobson Decl., Ex. F ("Powell Aff.") ¶¶ 20-21; *id.*, Ex. H ("NAACP Decl.") ¶ 26. In any event, Defendants' assertion is irrelevant because a statute imposing a property qualification to vote is facially unconstitutional as to everyone, including people who meet the qualification. If a statute provided that only people who own 10 acres of land can vote, it would facially violate the Ban on Property Qualifications Clause as to everyone, including people who own 10 acres of land. *See Harper*, 383 U.S. at 665 (facially invalidating poll tax as to everyone).

N.C.G.S. § 13-1's violation of the Ban on Property Qualifications Clause may be particularly injurious for people living in North Carolina with out-of-state convictions. A person convicted in another state may not vote until he or she receives an "unconditional discharge ... by the agency of that state having jurisdiction of such person." N.C.G.S. § 13-1(5). In some states, people with felony convictions cannot obtain an "unconditional discharge" until they pay their financial obligations. For instance, in Kentucky, "the parole for a person owing restitution shall be until the restitution is paid in full, even if this would lengthen the period of supervision beyond the statutory limit of parole supervision or the statutory limit for serving out the sentence imposed." Ky. Rev. Stat. 439.563(5). Accordingly, for any person living in North Carolina who was convicted of a felony in Kentucky or another state with a similar regime, having enough money to pay their financial obligations is an absolute precondition to voting.⁵

VII. N.C.G.S. § 13-1's Disenfranchisement of People on Community Supervision Does Not Serve Any Adequate Government Interest

For each of Plaintiffs' claims except the Ban on Property Qualifications Clause—which imposes an absolute prohibition that no government interest can override—strict scrutiny applies

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⁵ Kentucky's Governor recently issued an Executive Order allowing people with felony convictions to vote even if they still owe restitution or other financial obligations, if they have finished their other terms of parole. https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/20191212_Executive-Order_2019-003.pdf. Thus, a person convicted in Kentucky who has finished all terms of parole except restitution could vote in *Kentucky* elections. But if the person lives in *North Carolina*, he or she could not vote here based on the lack of an "unconditional discharge" from parole.

for the reasons explained above. Defendants do not even attempt to argue that the challenged disenfranchisement scheme could satisfy strict scrutiny, and that is conclusive.

But as discussed above, the Court at a minimum should apply intermediate scrutiny. The Supreme Court has repeatedly applied intermediate scrutiny where the government's discretion to regulate in a particular field had to be balanced against other constitutional protections. In King, the Supreme Court recognized the deference owed to a school board's "judgments regarding the provision of alternative education," but held that "[r]ational basis review ... does not adequately protect student[s]" in light of the "state constitutional rights to equal educational access and a sound basic education." 364 N.C. at 372-77, 704 S.E.2d at 262-65. The Court applied intermediate scrutiny "to harmonize the rational basis test employed in school discipline cases with the strict scrutiny analysis that formed a part of this Court's constitutional holding in school funding cases." Id. The Supreme Court likewise applied intermediate scrutiny in Blankenship to balance the constitutional "province of the legislature" to create a "convenient number" of judicial districts with the separate equal protections right of North Carolinians to substantially equal voting power. Blankenship, 363 N.C. 523-27, 681 S.E.2d 763-76. Under intermediate scrutiny, the government must show that the challenged law "advance[s] important government interests" and is not more restrictive "than necessary to further those interests." Id.

Here, Defendants cannot show that N.C.G.S. 13-1's disenfranchisement of people on community supervision advances any "important," much less "compelling," government interest. Indeed, Defendants have not shown that the challenged aspects of N.C.G.S. 13-1 advance any legitimate government interest at all, and thus the scheme is invalid under any level of constitutional scrutiny. Defendants have presented no *evidence* whatsoever—none—that disenfranchising people on community supervision serves *any* valid state interest today.

Importantly, to defend the law's constitutionality here, Defendants must show not just that the law served some supposed government interests when it was amended nearly 50 years ago, but instead that the law adequately serves government interests *today*. *See Shelby Cty. v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529, 550-56 (2013). As the U.S. Supreme Court has explained, a "classification must substantially serve an important governmental interest *today*, for ... 'new insights and societal understandings can reveal unjustified inequality that once passed unnoticed and unchallenged.'" *Sessions v. Morales-Santana*, 137 S. Ct. 1678, 1690 (2017) (quoting *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 135 S. Ct. 2584, 2603 (2015)) (emphasis by Supreme Court)).

State Board Defendants focus primarily on the state interests served in the 1970s by certain changes to the law adopted then—changes that Plaintiffs do not challenge in this case.

See SBOE Br. 29-31 ("Fourth" through "Seventh" interests). For instance, State Board

Defendants describe the benefits of making rights restoration automatic rather than requiring a petition to a judge or other tribunal, but Plaintiffs do not challenge the part of N.C.G.S. § 13-1 that makes rights restoration "automatic." Plaintiffs challenge other parts of the law, and State Board Defendants must establish that those parts of the law serve government interests today.

The relevant inquiry, moreover, is not to compare the current version of the law to prior versions and evaluate which is better; the question is whether the ongoing enforcement of the challenged parts of the statute serves adequate government interests that would be lost if those parts were enjoined. If a single statute imposing both a poll tax and a literacy test were amended to remove the literacy test, the remaining poll tax could not be sustained on the ground that the amendment "expand[ed] the opportunities ... to vote." SBOE Br. 29. The question would be whether the poll tax served government interests, which it would not. The same is true here.

Other than invoking Article VI—which *Holmes* establishes is insufficient, Br. 31-32—State Boards Defendants put forward just two government interests in their brief relating to the aspect of the law that Plaintiffs do challenge, but those interests were *not* identified in discovery and thus cannot be relied upon now. In particular, State Board Defendants assert that people on community supervision "have forgone their opportunity to elect the officials who are responsible for enacting and enforcing the laws," and that the State has an interest in conditioning restoration "on some showing of rehabilitation." SBOE Br. 28. State Board Defendants did not list these interests in response to Plaintiffs' interrogatory asking them to identify any government interest supporting the law. *See* Jacobson Decl., Ex. I. It would be manifestly unfair to permit State Board Defendants to rely on such undisclosed interests now when Plaintiffs did not have the opportunity to examine the Board's 30(b)(6) representative about them. The prejudice is particularly great because, as explained below, at deposition the Board's representative disclaimed any reliance on the interests that *were* listed in their interrogatory response.

Even setting aside the failure to disclose these purported interests, they do not remotely justify the law. The first rationale, which seems to be grounded in social contract theory, is inconsistent with N.C.G.S. § 13-1 itself and this State's entire history of felony disenfranchisement. North Carolina has never *permanently* disenfranchised people with felony convictions. By its own terms, N.C.G.S. § 13-1 does not adhere to a notion that people with felony convictions have "foregone altogether" the ability to vote. SBOE Br. 28. Legislative Defendants' own expert also admitted that there is no evidence that North Carolina's disenfranchisement scheme was enacted based on principles of social contract theory. Callanan Dep. 264:5-14. This State's disenfranchisement law traces its origins to white supremacy in the post-Civil War American South—not ancient "Roman and English law." SBOE Br. 28.

As for State Board Defendants' other newly disclosed interest, people released from incarceration have already made "some showing of rehabilitation." SBOE Br. 28. That is why they are permitted in live in communities across the State. State Board Defendants offer no explanation why that is not so. If anything, the record shows that disenfranchisement stigmatizes people with felony convictions, thus hindering their reintegration. Burch Report at 40-42.

As to the purported interests disclosed in State Board Defendants' interrogatory response, the State Board's Executive Director testified at deposition that the State Board is *not* asserting those interests to justify enforcing the challenged law today. For five of the six interests set forth in the interrogatory response, the Executive Director testified that the State Board is not asserting that disenfranchising people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision serves these interests as a factual matter in the present day, and she admitted that the State Board has no evidence that disenfranchising such people advances any of these interests. *See* Jacobson Reply Decl., Ex. 1 ("Bell Dep.") at 179:4-204:15. For the remaining interest that Plaintiffs could ask about—that the law purportedly ensures people satisfy their obligations before their rights are restored—the Executive Director interpreted that to mean only that the State Board has an obligation to comply with N.C.G.S § 13-1 as currently written, which obviously is not a government interest supporting the statute itself. *Id.* at 206:11-19.

For their part, Legislative Defendants merely provide a list of bullet points—largely copied-pasted from their interrogatory response—listing ten interests that the statute purportedly serves.⁶ LD Br. 23. Legislative Defendants offer no evidence or explanation for how disenfranchising people on community supervision serves any of those interests. Merely pasting a list of purported interests into a brief with no elaboration cannot satisfy any level of scrutiny.

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⁶ There are some differences between the interests listed in Legislative Defendants' brief and their interrogatory response. Legislative Defendants may not rely on any aspects of the interests in their brief that are different.

Further, the record shows that disenfranchising people on community supervision in fact undermines the interests that Defendants put forward. For instance, the challenged scheme does the opposite of "simplifying the administration of the process," "avoiding confusion" among people with felony convictions, and "streamlining and promoting voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies." The State Board uses a datamatching process to identify people convicted of felonies in North Carolina state court who are registered voters, and these individuals' registrations are then canceled. But the State Board's Executive Director admitted that, based on audit data from a related matching process, roughly 20% of the hits through this data matching may be false positives, meaning that a very sizeable number of people may have their registrations canceled erroneously. Bell Dep. at 78:2-82:14.

The State's tracking and notification procedures are also a mess. When the State Board identifies a registered voter who has been convicted of a felony through its data matching, the relevant county board of elections sends the voter a letter stating that they are no longer eligible to vote. Jacobson Reply Decl., Ex. 2 at 4; Bell Dep. at 34:6-40:15. But neither the county board nor the State Board sends the voter a new notification once they are *re-eligible* to vote after completing their community supervision—even though the State Board receives lists from DPS of individuals who have completed their sentences. Bell Dep. at 41:16-47:4.

The situation is even worse for people convicted of felonies in federal court. The U.S. Attorneys' offices inform the State Board when people are convicted of federal felonies, and county boards then notify those people that they cannot vote and cancels their registrations.

Jacobson Reply Decl., Ex. 3; Bell Dep. at 53:9-55:3. But federal officials never notify the State Board or county boards when people finish their federal sentences. The boards' databases thus continue to show that people convicted of federal felonies are ineligible to vote even after their

rights are restored. Bell Dep. at 55:10-25, 62:25-63:5. Moreover, the State Board has no idea whether federal probation officers or anyone else ever tell people that upon completing their federal community supervision their voting rights are restored. *Id.* at 65:8-66:3. Worse yet, the State Board maintains no information about people living in North Carolina after a felony conviction in another state. *Id.* at 67:13-70:15. As a result, nobody tells these people that they are ineligible to vote or that they can vote once they receive an unconditional discharge. *Id.*

The disenfranchisement of people on community supervision fosters confusion on the State Board's forms as well. At the time of the Executive Director's deposition, all of the State Board's forms—including the voter registration form and the application for one-stop voting—told applicants that they could not vote if they were on "probation or parole," but the forms did not mention post-release supervision. Jacobson Reply Decl., Exs. 4, 5; Bell Dep. at 83:5-97:19, 112:11-113:4. The State Board's educational materials for people with criminal convictions, and its training manuals for poll workers, likewise omit post-release supervision. Jacobson Reply Decl., Exs. 6, 7; Bell Dep. at 98:18-109:21. People on post-release supervision reading these materials accordingly may mistakenly believe that they are eligible to vote, and they could then be prosecuted for a serious crime if they do. Bell Dep. at 105:13-106:5.

Beyond these problems, disenfranchising people on community supervision inherently leads to confusion. Many people intuitively believe that they can vote once released from prison. Powerful evidence on this score can be found in an affidavit by Anthony Haith, one of the "Alamance 12," included with the North Carolina Justice Center's amicus brief. Many North Carolinians are also uncertain whether they have received an "unconditional discharge" if they have not paid off all of their financial obligations. Powell Aff. ¶ 20. This confusion, in

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⁷ Since the deposition, the State Board amended the voter registration form to mention post-release supervision, but Ms. Bell indicated that the Board's other forms and materials may not be similarly changed. Bell Dep. at 97:5-18.

conjunction with recent high-profile prosecutions of people for voting while on community supervision, deters people with felony convictions from voting even once they are eligible—particularly in the African American community. Id. ¶ 21. A simple rule that people can vote if they are not incarcerated would eliminate all of this confusion and fear.

In short, the mass disenfranchisement of people on community supervision causes immense harm, and Defendants produced zero evidence that it serves any counterbalancing state interest. The scheme thus fails strict scrutiny or any other level of review. *See, e.g., Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 635 (1996) (striking down statute under rational basis review where "[t]he breadth of the [law] is so far removed from the [particular justifications" offered for it).

Defendants assert that the "reasonableness" of disenfranchising people on community supervision is "confirmed by the fact that 31 other states draw the same distinction among people living in their communities." SBOE Br. 31. As of 1948, 39 states including North Carolina banned interracial marriage. Jacobson Reply Decl., Ex. 8 ("Barber Dep.") at 58-59. It wasn't reasonable. Before the Nineteenth Amendment, 33 states including North Carolina had laws restricting women from voting. *Id.* at 56-57. It wasn't reasonable. As of 1923, 45 states including North Carolina had a poll tax. *Id.* at 54-56. It wasn't reasonable. As of 1965, half of the states including North Carolina required a literacy test for voting. *Id.* at 57-58. It wasn't reasonable. There is no "everyone else is doing it" defense to unconstitutional discrimination.

VIII. The Court Should Enter a Preliminary Injunction If It Does Not Grant Judgment

While summary judgment is warranted for the reasons set forth above, at a minimum the Court should enter a preliminary injunction for the November 2020 elections.⁸ Defendants do not even attempt to refute the irreparable harm to the nearly 60,000 people who will be prevented

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⁸ Because Defendants have not cross-moved for summary judgment, a trial would be necessary if the Court does not grant Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment.

from voting—and their surrounding communities—if they are unable to vote this year. Br. 54-57. Legislative Defendants do not discuss the equities or public interest at all. LD Br. 35. State Board Defendants avoid addressing the severe injuries that will befall tens of thousands of North Carolinians by hiding behind the broken premise that this Court would have to disenfranchise all people with felony convictions as the only available remedy. SBOE Br. 50. That is not the only equitable remedy this Court can order, as previously explained. *See supra* pp. 8-12.

Rather than address the equities or public interest, Defendants assert that a preliminary injunction here would not maintain the "status quo." LD Br. 35; SBOE Br. 49. Even if Defendants were correct that North Carolina law permits preliminary injunctions only to restore a "status quo" (and they are not), that requirement would be met here. "[T]here is no particular magic in the phrase 'status quo," *Ga. State Conf. of the NAACP v. Fayette County Bd. of Commr's*, 118 F. Supp. 3d 1338, 1349 (N.D. Ga. 2015) (quotation marks omitted), but generally in the injunction context, the term means "the last uncontested status between the parties which preceded the controversy," *League of Women Voters of N.C. v. North Carolina*, 769 F.3d 224, 236 (4th Cir. 2014) (quotation marks omitted). Here, the "last uncontested status" between the parties is before North Carolina ever passed legislation disenfranchising people with felony convictions who are not incarcerated, and Plaintiffs seek to return to that status. *See, e.g.*, Order on Inj. Relief at 12, *Harper v. Lewis*, 19 CVS 012667 (N.C. Super. Oct. 28, 2019).

In any event, North Carolina courts may alter the status quo through mandatory, as opposed to prohibitory, preliminary injunctions. *Roberts v. Madison Cty. Realtors Ass'n*, 344 N.C. 394, 400, 474 S.E.2d 783, 788 (1996); *League of Women Voters of N.C.*, 769 F.3d at 236 ("mandatory injunctions alter the status quo"). In *Lloyd v. Babb*, 296 N.C. 416, 430, 251 S.E.2d 843, 853 (1979), the trial court entered a preliminary injunction requiring a county board of

elections to take new measures when registering college students to vote. The Supreme Court held that "[t]his order amounts to a preliminary mandatory injunction," and "[o]ur courts have power to enter such an order, provided it is supported by the evidence." *Id.* (cleaned up). This Court has authority to enter a preliminary injunction that affirmatively orders the State Board to process registrations by people on community supervision and to allow them to vote.

Furthermore, irrespective of the status quo, the Supreme Court has held that a preliminary injunction may issue "where the primary ultimate remedy sought is an injunction; where the denial of a preliminary injunction would serve effectively to foreclose adequate relief to plaintiff; where no 'legal' (as opposed to equitable) remedy will suffice; and where the decision to grant or deny a preliminary injunction in effect results in a determination on the merits, [and] plaintiff has made a showing that the issuance of a preliminary injunction is necessary for the protection of its rights." *A.E.P. Industries, Inc. v. McClure*, 308 N.C. 393, 410, 302 S.E.2d 754, 764 (1983). All of these criteria are met here. Plaintiffs ultimately seek a permanent injunction; the decision to grant a preliminary injunction will turn on the merits; and an injunction is necessary to protect Plaintiffs and their members' right to vote in the November 2020 elections.

Ultimately, Defendants' position elevates form over substance, ignoring the maxim that a preliminary injunction is "equitable in nature." *A.E.P.*, 308 N.C. at 406, 302 S.E.2d at 762. If ever there were a case where the equities demanded an injunction, it is this one.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant summary judgment in favor of Plaintiffs, or alternatively a preliminary injunction.

Respectfully submitted this the 17th day of August, 2020.

FORWARD JUSTICE

/s/ Daryl Atkinson

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing to counsel for Defendants via *e-mail*, addressed to the following persons at the following addresses which are the last addresses known to me:

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Counsel for Legislative Defendants

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Counsel for State Board Defendants

This the 17th day of August, 2020.

/s/Daryl Atkinson

Daryl Atkinson (NC Bar # 39030)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION No. 19-cv-15941

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

TIMOTHY K. MOORE, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS SPEAKER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, et al.,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF DANIEL F. JACOBSON

- I, Daniel F. Jacobson, declare and say as follows:
- 1. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and competent to testify as to the matters set forth herein.
- 2. I am a senior associate with the law firm Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP and one of the attorneys representing Plaintiffs in this case.
- 3. I submit this affidavit in support of Plaintiffs' Reply Brief in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment or in the Alternative a Preliminary Injunction.
- 4. Attached as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of the Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.
- 5. Attached as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of a PowerPoint presentation from the State Board of Elections ("SBOE") titled "Election Technology Training" produced by the SBOE in discovery, which was Exhibit A to the Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.
- 6. Attached as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from a SBOE document describing the felony voter list maintenance process that was produced by the SBOE in discovery, and which was Exhibit B to the Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.

7. Attached as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of the North Carolina Voter

Registration Application produced by the SBOE in discovery, which was Exhibit E to the

Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.

8. Attached as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of North Carolina's One Stop

Application produced by the SBOE in discovery, which was Exhibit G to the Deposition of

Karen Brinson Bell.

9. Attached as Exhibit 6 is a true and correct copy of a document titled "NC Voting"

Rights Guide: People in the Criminal Justice System," which was produced by the SBOE in

discovery and was Exhibit J to the Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.

10. Attached as Exhibit 7 is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from an SBOE poll

worker guide, which was produced by the SBOE in discovery and was Exhibit I to the

Deposition of Karen Brinson Bell.

11. Attached as Exhibit 8 is a true and correct copy of excerpts of the Deposition of

Michael J. Barber.

12. Attached as Exhibit 9 is a true and correct copy of the North Carolina

Administrative Office of the Courts' 2019 Report on Criminal Cost Waivers.

Respectfully submitted this the 17th day of August, 2020.

/s/ Daniel F. Jacobson

Daniel F. Jacobson

EXHIBIT 1

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE, ET AL. vs TIMOTHY K. MOORE, ET AL. 30(b)(6) Karen Brinson Bell on 07/16/2020

1	NORTH CAROLINA) IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
2) SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION WAKE COUNTY) 19-CVS-15941
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4	COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE; JUSTICE
5	SERVED NC, INC.; NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP,
6	Plaintiffs,
7	vs.
8	TIMOTHY K. MOORE, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY OF SPEAKER OF THE NORTH
9	CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; et al.,
10	Defendants.
11	/
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13	
14	30(b)(6) Deposition by RingCentral
15	of
16	KAREN BRINSON BELL
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19	(Taken Remotely by Plaintiffs)
20	Raleigh, North Carolina
21	Thursday, July 16, 2020
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24	Reported Remotely in Stenotype Denise Y. Meek
25	Court Reporter and Notary Public

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1	Page 6	1	Page 8 through 1.f.
2	THE REPORTER: We are now on the	2	"Plaintiffs' examination of Defendant
3	record.	3	State Board's Rule 30(b)(6) designee shall
4	MR. COX: I'm Paul Cox with the	4	also be limited to governmental interests
5	North Carolina Attorney General's Office,	5	Defendant State Board may have in the
6	representing the State Board of Elections	6	present enforcement of N.C.G.S.,
7	and its members, and the witness, and we	7	Section 13-1, including Defendant State
8	consent to the remote deposition.	8	Board's current policies and procedures
9	MR. JACOBSON: This is Daniel Jacobson	9	relating to N.C.G.S., Section 13-1."
10	from Arnold & Porter representing the	10	And finally:
11	plaintiffs. We consent to the remote	11	"Plaintiffs shall be precluded from
12	deposition.	12	examining Defendant State Board's Rule
13	MR. ATKINSON: Darryl Atkinson,	13	30(b)(6) designee on matters relating to
14	•	14	
	Forward Justice, counsel for the		the enactment or historical enforcement of
15	plaintiffs. We consent to the remote	15 16	N.C.G.S., Section 13-1."
16	deposition.		And, Madam Court Reporter, I'll send
17	MS. CARPENTER: Whitley Carpenter,	17	you a copy for the exhibit to be entered
18	Forward Justice, counsel for the	18	into the record.
19	plaintiffs. We consent to the remote	19	And just stating here at the outset,
20	deposition.	20	for anything that would go outside the
21	MR. RABINOVITZ: This is Brian	21	bounds of that order or would violate the
22	Rabinovitz from the North Carolina Attorney	22	order, the State Board will be objecting to
23	General's Office on behalf of the	23	those questions and instructing the witness
24	legislative defendants, and we also consent	24	not to answer.
25	to the remote deposition.	25	(Defendants' 1 marked.)
	Page 7		Page 9
1		l -	_
	THE REPORTER: All right. Ms. Bell,	1	
2	please raise your right hand.	2	 KAREN BRINSON BELL,
2 3	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you	2 3	having been first duly remotely sworn,
2 3 4	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you will give in this matter will be the truth,	2 3 4	having been first duly remotely sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
2 3 4 5	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you will give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth,	2 3 4 5	having been first duly remotely sworn, was examined and testified as follows: EXAMINATION
2 3 4 5 6	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you will give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?	2 3 4 5 6	having been first duly remotely sworn, was examined and testified as follows: EXAMINATION BY MR. JACOBSON:
2 3 4 5 6	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you will give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? THE WITNESS: I do.	2 3 4 5 6	having been first duly remotely sworn, was examined and testified as follows: EXAMINATION BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. Okay. Good morning, again, Ms. Bell.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you will give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? THE WITNESS: I do. THE REPORTER: Thank you, ma'am. MR. JACOBSON: Good morning, Ms. Bell. MR. COX: Dan, this is Paul. Before we get started, I just wanted to make one note on the record. Yesterday the Court entered into a protective order, as all counsel knows, and I just want to make sure that that's entered into the record. I'll be emailing a copy to the court reporter to enter it into the record. But just for everyone's sake of understanding right now, it states that: "Plaintiffs' examination of Defendant State Board's Rule 30(b)(6) designee relating to matter 1 of Schedule A of the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	having been first duly remotely sworn, was examined and testified as follows: EXAMINATION BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. Okay. Good morning, again, Ms. Bell. As I mentioned, I'm Daniel Jacobson. I am an attorney for the plaintiffs in this case. Could I ask you to state your full name for the record. A. Karen Brinson Bell. Q. And do you understand that you've taken an oath to tell the truth today? A. Yes, I do. Q. There will be a transcript of everything we say. So we should just try the best we can not to talk over each other. I'll try to do my best if you could do your best as well. A. Yes. I'm aware of that. Thank you. Q. And your counsel may object, but you must answer the question even if he objects,

30(n	(v)(v) Karen Dinisun D	CII	on 07/10/2020 1 ages 1013
1	Page 10	1	Page 12 Q. And other than those two cases, you've
2	Do you understand that? A. I do.	2	never given a deposition before in any
3	Q. Is there any reason you cannot give	3	capacity?
4	complete, truthful testimony today?	4	A. In my role as executive director.
5	A. Not that I'm aware of.	5	That's correct. There was a personal matter
6	Q. Have you taken any medications that	6	that I've been deposed for.
7	would prevent you from giving complete,	7	Q. Okay. And just to make sure: You've
8	accurate, and truthful testimony today?	8	never given a deposition in any other case in
9	A. I have not.	9	your professional capacity even before your
10	Q. If you want a break at any point, just	10	current job; is that right?
11	let us know, and we'll take a break.	11	A. That's right.
12	A. Will do. Thank you.	12	Q. Have you ever testified before at a
13	Q. Have you ever been deposed before?	13	trial?
14	A. Yes, I have.	14	A. I'm sorry. One moment.
15	Q. And when was that?	15	Q. Sure.
16	A. I've been deposed once personally; once	16	A. Sorry. No, I have not testified in a
17	about a year ago, in my capacity as executive	17	trial.
18	director; and then once this week in my	18	Q. Okay. What is your current job title?
19	capacity as executive director; and then this	19	A. I'm executive director of the
20	deposition.	20	North Carolina State Board of Elections.
21	Q. I'll take those one at a time, then.	21	Q. And how long have you been in that
22	You said once about a year ago? Did I	22	position?
23	hear that right?	23	A. I began June 1, 2019. So just over a
24	A. That's correct.	24	year.
25	O. And what case was that?	25	Q. And I understand that this might be a
1	Page 11 A. It was dealing with the federal ID law.	1	Page 13 very difficult question to answer, but on a
2	O. And was that a federal court case or a	2	high level, what are your responsibilities in
3	state court case?	3	that role?
4	A. I honestly don't recall at this point.	4	A. I am the chief elections official for
5	Q. Okay. And you were already in your	5	the State of North Carolina. I, with the State
6	position that you currently hold now at the	6	Board of Elections, have oversight of
7	time of that deposition; is that right?	7	elections, administration for our state, and
8	A. I had just begun. Yes.	8	the conduct of all 100 county boards of
9	Q. Okay. And then the second case, what	9	elections. And we also, as the State Board,
10	was that case?	10	and the 100 county boards, oversee compliance
11	A. That was earlier this week, and it is	11	with campaign finance laws.
12	dealing with changes to the it's a case	12	Q. In your role, do you oversee the State
13	dealing with coronavirus and a lawsuit	13	Board's efforts to notify people convicted of
14	asking for changes in how we conduct elections	14	felonies about their voting rights?
15	dealing with coronavirus.	15	A. We do receive voter registrations. So
16	Q. And what kind of changes are the	16	that does pertain to felons.
17	plaintiffs asking for in that case?	17	Q. And do you oversee the State Board's
18	A. It's actually quite a numerous	18	procedures for preventing people convicted of
19	things. Changes to the witnesses on changes	19	felonies from voting?
20	to the voter registration deadline. How we	20	MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not
21	I'm just trying to think of some of the other	21	in evidence.
22	things that were being considered. Those are	22	BY MR. JACOBSON:
23	two of the main ones.	23	Q. Ms. Bell, you understand that people
24	Q. Okay.	24	who are serving a felony sentence in
25	A. The poll workers and precinct workers.	25	North Carolina are not allowed to vote. Is

20(D		oui o	1 07/10/2020 1 ugcs 1 iii1/
1	Page 14 that right?	1	Page 16 Q. And how long did you have that job?
2	A. That is what the law states.	2	A. From in a full-time capacity,
3	Q. And do you oversee the State Board's	3	October of 2016 until I assumed this role. So
4	procedures for preventing such people from	4	the end of May 2019.
5	voting?	5	O. And is that a nonprofit organization?
6	A. I administer the law which says that we	6	A. It is. It is organized now as a
7	give notice or administer the law as it's	7	nonprofit organization.
8	written pertaining to felons and their rights	8	Q. And what's again, this might be a
9	to vote.	9	loaded question, but, broadly speaking, what's
10	Q. Right. And just so that I the Board	10	the primary mission of that organization?
11	has certain procedures in place. Right?	11	A. We were a group of former election
12	Administrative procedures to, you know, the	12	administrators who had worked in the election
13	best they can, make sure that people who are	13	administration field. We were working with
14	serving such felony convictions are not	14	different governmental entities, be that a
15	actually able to vote; is that right?	15	legislature or a city council, varying levels
16	A. We have procedures pertaining to the	16	of government and election administration for
17	qualifications of voters.	17	those who were considering or were already
18	O. Okay. And then in your capacity as	18	charged with implementing ranked choice voting
19	executive director, that falls within your	19	as a voting method. We had I particularly
20	purview of overseeing those procedures; is that	20	had experience in that voting method, and so we
21	right?	21	were sharing election administration practices
22	A. That's correct.	22	for those considering the method or who were
23	Q. Okay. And in your role and,	23	implementing or expanding their processes.
	Ms. Bell, you understand that people who have	24	Q. And before that job what was your
24 25		25	job before that?
23	completed their felony sentence become	23	Job berore that:
1	Page 15 reeligible to vote again. Is that right?	1	Page 17 A. I had worked for a voting an
2	A. That is how our law is stated, yes.	2	elections software company.
3	Q. And does the Board have procedures to	3	Q. Have you ever worked other than your
4	help implement that aspect of the law, that	4	current job, have you ever worked for any
5	people are allowed to vote again once their	5	government agency?
6	felony sentences are completed?	6	A. Yes. From two thousand well, yes.
7	A. Yes. That's correct.	7	That's a "yes" or "no." So yes.
8	Q. And in your capacity as executive	8	Q. And what agency was that?
9	director, do you oversee those procedures?	9	A. I was the elections director for
10	A. Yes.	10	Transylvania County, North Carolina.
11	O. Ms. Bell, am I correct that the Board	11	Q. And when did you serve in that role?
12	conducts investigations of people who may have	12	A. From March of 2011 until March of 2015.
13	voted illegally while they were serving their	13	Q. And did I hear you right that you said
14	felony sentence?	14	you were the elections director? Or I might
15	A. We do have an investigations division	15	have misheard.
16	where we look at violations of election law.	16	A. That's correct. Yes. At the county
17	Q. And do you in your capacity as	17	level in North Carolina, we're considered
18	executive director, do you oversee that	18	election directors.
19	division?	19	Q. And what were your responsibilities in
20	A. Yes, that is a division of this agency.	20	that role?
21	Q. Okay. Before your current job, what	21	A. To administer voting, voter
22	was what job did you hold before your	22	registration, campaign finance, election
23	current job?	23	administration for Transylvania County,
24	A. I was a consultant for the Ranked	24	North Carolina.
25	Choice Voting Resource Center.	25	Q. And in that role, were you involved in
1	<u> </u>	1	

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1	Page 18	1	Page 20
1 2	implementing procedures for notifying people convicted of felonies about their voting	1 2	Q. And when you say "voting systems," are
3	rights?	3	you referring to the actual software that voting machines use that will actually cast the
4	A. Yes, as it pertains to North Carolina	4	ballots? Is that
	· •	5	
5	law, yes.	6	A. A voting system is the firmware,
6	Q. And in that role were you involved in		software, and hardware associated with voting.
7	implementing procedures for preventing people	7	So the tabulators, the tabulation software.
8	who were serving felony sentences from voting?	8	Yeah. All the components you see when you cast
9	A. Again, my role was to administer	9	your ballot.
10	elections and voter registration based on	10	Q. In that role did that role touch at
11	qualifications for people to vote or not to	11	all on the law regarding people serving their
12	vote based on North Carolina law.	12	felony sentences and whether they can vote?
13	Q. And those qualifications included that	13	A. That was not a direct part of my job.
14	a person is not currently serving a felony	14	I assisted counties in other processes, but
15	sentence; is that right?	15	that was not a direct part of my job at that
16	A. That was the law at that time. Yes.	16	time.
17	Q. Okay. And in that role in Transylvania	17	Q. Okay. And other than the three
18	County, were you involved in procedures for	18	government positions we've discussed, have you
19	enabling people who had finished their felony	19	held any government position?
20	sentence to once again vote?	20	A. No.
21	A. Yes. If an individual was qualified to	21	Q. Other than the jobs we've already
22	register and vote, then we did follow those	22	talked about, have you ever worked at all in a
23	procedures.	23	professional capacity on issues relating to
24	Q. And in that role were you involved in	24	felony disenfranchisement?
25	the investigation of people who may have	25	A. I have not.
	Page 19		Page 21
1	legally voted while serving a felony sentence?	1	Q. Okay. What did you do to prepare for
2	A. The county level turns over that	2	today's deposition?
3	information to the state, and there is no	3	A. I have spoken with counsel to
4	county investigations division. So that's	4	understand the process, particularly, to the
5	turned over to the state.	5	organizational witness aspect. I have reviewed
6	Q. Other than that role in Transylvania	6	documents that we provided as the State Board,
7	County, have you served in any sort of	7	that were provided by counsel.
8	government capacity, other than your current	8	Q. Did you meet with your lawyers to
9	job?	9	prepare for this deposition?
10	A. Yes.	10	A. I did.
11	Q. And what was that?	11	Q. How many times did you meet them?
12	A. I worked for the State Board of	12	A. Other than being briefed, you know, on
13	Elections from 2006 until I became county	13	the status of the case to actually prepare for
14	elections director in 2011.	14	this, we met once.
15	Q. And what was your what role did you	15	Q. And other than Mr. Cox, was anyone else
16	hold at that time?	16	present at that meeting?
17	A. I was a district elections technician.	17	A. The State Board's general counsel,
18			
1	Q. And what did that job entail?	18	Katelyn Love.
19	Q. And what did that job entail?A. I was assigned a regional position	18 19	Katelyn Love. Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was
19 20			•
	A. I was assigned a regional position	19	Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was
20	A. I was assigned a regional position where I worked in the western part of the state	19 20	Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was anyone present?
20 21	A. I was assigned a regional position where I worked in the western part of the state supporting 12 counties. The primary	19 20 21	Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was anyone present? A. Yes. Our deputy director, Trena Parker
20 21 22	A. I was assigned a regional position where I worked in the western part of the state supporting 12 counties. The primary responsibilities dealt with the voting systems and North Carolina's procurement of a new	19 20 21 22	Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was anyone present? A. Yes. Our deputy director, Trena Parker Velez.
20 21 22 23	A. I was assigned a regional position where I worked in the western part of the state supporting 12 counties. The primary responsibilities dealt with the voting systems	19 20 21 22 23	Q. Other than Ms. Love and Mr. Cox, was anyone present? A. Yes. Our deputy director, Trena Parker Velez. Q. Okay. Was Mr. Rabinovitz from the

50 (k		ocii o	1 4505 22.120
1	Page 22 A. No, he was not.	1	Page 24 handled by our general counsel. We reached out
2	O. Okay. And I believe you just mentioned	2	to staff.
3	this a moment ago, but have you reviewed any	3	Q. Okay. Are you familiar at all with the
4	documents to prepare for this deposition?	4	process that he used to gather documents?
5	A. Yes. I reviewed some of our	5	A. Our general counsel, or Mr. Cox?
6	procedures procedural documents that were	6	Q. Your general counsel.
7	provided with this case.	7	A. I was copied or included on emails when
8	O. Other than documents that were and	8	she reached out to staff members. If she
9	when you I'm sorry. When you say provided	9	yeah, I was not pertinent to phone
10	in this case, do you mean provided to	10	conversations, if those occurred.
11	plaintiffs as part of discovery?	11	Q. Okay. Do you know do they search paper
12	A. That would be my understanding. I'm	12	files and electronic documents, or just one or
13	not an attorney, so	13	the other?
14	Q. Okay. Other than those documents that	14	A. I don't have the answer to that.
15	you think were provided to the plaintiffs as	15	Q. Okay. Do you know if they conducted
16	part of discovery, did you review any documents	16	electronic searches?
		17	
17	to prepare for today?		A. In some of what I have, there's a
18	A. No, not that I recall.	18	record of an email that I have in front of me
19	Q. I see that you have a large stack of	19	that was submitted. So if that answers your
20	documents behind you, and I won't ask you about	20	there's at least an email. So that would be an
21	those, but did you	21	electronic file.
22	A. So that would be our COVID response,	22	Q. Okay. What email is that?
23	our Monday morning kickoff, our conference that	23	A. It's maybe the best way for me to
24	we have coming up. All the many things that go	24	identify it is the page number.
25	on in election administration.	25	Q. Sure.
	Page 23		Page 25
1	Q. Fair enough. And that would probably	1	A. So CSI_NCSBE_000048. So it's an email
2	take us a full day just to go through those.	2	from Katelyn Love, as well as Veronica
3	A. At least.	3	Degraffenreid.
4	Q. Did you bring any documents, though,	4	Q. And do State Board does the State
5	with you today specifically for this	5	Board staff or members frequently email about
6	deposition?	6	issues relating to felony disenfranchisement?
7	A. I have some of those documents that	7	A. What do you mean by "frequently"?
8	have been provided. I have those with me.	8	Q. Do they ever email about issues
9	Q. Okay. But nothing else beyond what	9	relating to felony disenfranchisement?
10	you've already described?	10	A. Yes, we would email you know, yes,
11	A. That's correct.	11	we would email about that.
12	Q. Okay. And, Ms. Bell, I believe, again,	12	Q. Okay. And do you know that the State
13	you already answered this, but you're aware	13	Board searched their emails in response to
14	that the State Board produced documents in	14	discovery requests in this case?
15	response to the plaintiffs' discovery request	15	A. I don't know.
16	in this case?	16	Q. Okay. And you think the person who
17	A. Yes.	17	would know that is the deputy director and the
18	Q. Were you involved in the process of	18	general counsel. Am I understanding that
19	identifying or collecting the documents that	19	right?
20	were to be produced?	20	A. In this case it would be the general
21	A. No, not not particularly.	21	counsel.
22	Q. Who at the State Board was involved in	22	Q. Okay.
23	gathering the documents that were produced as	23	A. The deputy director does not have the
24	part of discovery in this case?	24	discovery rights.
25	A. To my knowledge, most of that was	25	Q. Okay. And have you reviewed all of the
		1	

30(b	(6) Karen Brinson E	sell d	on 07/16/2020 Pages 2629
1	Page 26 documents that were ultimately produced by the	1	Page 28 reflect current protocols and technology
2	State Board in this case?	2	databases used by the State Board and county
3	A. I have not.	3	board of elections?
4	Q. Okay. Just a subset?	4	A. Yes. We have we have other
5	A. Correct.	5	supplemental documents, but, yes, this is the
6	Q. Okay. I'm going to walk through some	6	latest version, to my knowledge, of this
7	of the documents, now, that were produced.	7	document.
8	A. Okav.	8	O. So there's no more recent documents
9	Q. So I'm going to pull up I'm going to	9	that sort of updates this? This is the latest
10	pull up exhibits on my screen and use the	10	version, you just said?
11	screen-share function. You can at any point	11	A. I believe that's correct. Yes.
12	tell me you want me to scroll to a different	12	Q. Okay. I'm going to turn now to the
13	page or you want to take more time to read	13	page that's Bates stamped page 286.
14	something I'm looking at. It's a little bit	14	Do you see that the title of this slide
15	cumbersome using remote procedures, but we'll	15	is "DOC Felon Reports Updated"?
16	do the best we can.	16	A. Yes.
17	MR. JACOBSON: And for opposing	17	Q. Does this page show the databases that
18	counsel, Mr. Atkinson will email you the	18	the State Board maintains regarding persons
19	marked copies. We've premarked all of	19	convicted of a felony in a North Carolina state
20	these. So he'll email them, you know, one	20	court and their eligibility to vote?
21	by one as we introduce each one, just so	21	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
22	everyone has a copy in front of them.	22	A. Repeat your question, please.
23	Does that sound okay to everyone?	23	Q. Sure. Does this page show the
24	MR. COX: Yes.	24	databases that the State Board of Elections
25	MR. JACOBSON: Okay.	25	maintains regarding persons convicted of a
	Page 27		Page 29
1	(Plaintiffs' A premarked.)	1	felony in a North Carolina state court and
2	BY MR. JACOBSON:	2	their eligibility to vote?
3	Q. Are you able to see my screen?	3	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
4	A. Yes. Well, I see a screen. I don't	4	A. I don't know that the terminology used
5	see the entire document.	5	is correct for what this displays.
6	Q. Do you see that this is a document	6	Q. Okay. How would you describe it?
7 8	entitled Election Technology Training?	7 8	A. Okay. This is a listing of lists and
9	A. Yes. Q. Have you seen this document before?	9	daily reports. It's not necessarily a database.
10	A. I have.	10	Q. Okay. But these are the lists and
11	Q. Can you confirm, to the best of your	11	daily reports that the State Board possesses
12	ability, that this is a true and accurate copy	12	regarding persons convicted of a felony in a
13	of a document produced by the State Board in	13	North Carolina state court; is that right?
14	discovery?	14	A. Somewhat.
15	A. I'm sorry. Your audio faded.	15	Q. Okay. What did I get wrong?
16	Q. I'm sorry. You said you've seen this	16	A. You indicated that we possess them.
17	document before, correct?	17	They may be provided to us or I just don't
18	A. Yes, I have.	18	want to it indicates it's the Department of
19	Q. Can you confirm, to the best of your	19	Corrections, which is a title that really means
20	ability, that this is a true and accurate copy	20	DPS, Department of Public Safety. And so some
21	of a document produced by the State Board in	21	of these are provided to us and not necessarily
22	this case in discovery?	22	our documents.
23	A. Yes, it is a State Board document. At	23	Q. Sure. The State Board maintains copies
24	least, as far as the cover.	24	of at least, copies of all of these lists;
		ا م	
25	Q. And does this does this document	25	is that correct?

Page 30 Page 32 1 A. Yes. They're provided to us, and we 1 North Carolina state court? 2 maintain them for our purposes. Yes. A. I don't want to split hairs with you, 3 Q. And these lists show -- or these lists 3 but that's -- it is not a report that says they are not eligible to vote. It says that they 4 relate to persons convicted of a felony in a 4 5 North Carolina state court; is that correct? 5 are "active felony status due to conviction of a felony" in North Carolina. 6 A. Actually, the way this is written, it 6 7 does not indicate that all of those are those 7 Q. Okay. But everyone who is on the list 8 convicted of a felony in a North Carolina state 8 is ineligible to vote; is that right? 9 court. 9 A. They are active felony status. 10 Q. You think that this includes people who 10 Therefore, we would then process this as 11 were convicted of a felony in a different 11 someone who is not eligible to vote. 12 court? 12 O. Okav. 13 A. Not -- no, just indicating that that's 13 A. But it's --Q. Go ahead. I'm sorry. 14 not what all of these bullet points state. 14 15 Q. Okay. How about we'll do this. We'll 15 A. That's all. 16 go through them one by one, and I'll state my 16 Q. Okay. The second list is called "Felon 17 understanding of them, and then you can tell me 17 State Matching List"; is that right? 18 what I'm getting wrong. Sound good? 18 A. Yes. 19 A. I believe you're correct that they are 19 Q. And does that list show the current 20 from the North Carolina state court, but I just 20 list of people who are on active felony status 21 who you are able to -- from a conviction in a 21 wanted to clarify that they don't each state 22 that. 22 North Carolina state court -- who you are able 23 Q. I understand. Okay. So the first one 23 to match up to a North Carolina voter here is called "Felon County List"? 24 registration record? A. Yes. 25 25 A. That is correct. Page 31 Page 33 Q. And does that list show the current Q. Okay. And is that -- am I 1 list of people who are ineligible to vote 2 understanding right, is that the SEIMS 3 because they are serving a felony sentence? 3 database? I might be --A. By definition, no, that's not what the 4 4 A. No. You said it correctly. 5 report indicates. 5 Q. Okay. That's a list of voters who are 6 Q. Okay. Well, can you explain to me why registered in North Carolina; is that right? 6 7 7 that's not correct? A. That's our database of people who are A. I will read what it says. It says 8 8 registered in North Carolina, SEIMS. 9 that: "This report shows the current list of 9 Q. Okay. And the third list is called persons who have an active felony status due to "Felon Completed List." Does that show the 10 10 11 conviction of a felony in a North Carolina 11 current list of persons who have completed 12 state court. The report is available by the 12 their felony sentence from a conviction in a 13 county in which the person was convicted of a 13 North Carolina state court? 14 felony (or was a resident at the time of his or 14 A. It states that they are no longer her conviction). User must select county and considered active felons. So by that -- does 15 16 user may select conviction month and year." 16 that meet your definition of no longer serving 17 17 It does not state whether they are a sentence? 18 18 eligible to vote or not, as you stated. Q. So let me ask you this: Anyone who is 19 Q. Okay. Is it your understanding that 19 no longer considered to be an active felon and 20 anyone serving an active felony status due to a 20 is, therefore, on that list, are all of those felony is ineligible to vote in North Carolina? 21 21 people eligible to vote in North Carolina 22 A. That is correct. 22 elections? 23 Q. So given that, doesn't this list show a 23 A. They are eligible, yes. current list of persons who are ineligible to 24 Q. Okay. And then the fourth list here,

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"Felon Completed State Matching List," does

vote in North Carolina due to a conviction in a

3 0(D)(O) Karen Brinson E	sen o	on 0//16/2020 Pages 343/
1	Page 34 that show the current list of people who are no	1	Page 36 MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
2	longer considered to be active felons who you	2	speculation.
3	are also able to match up to a North Carolina	3	A. What I can attest to is what the
4	voter registration record?	4	process would be once we receive that
5	A. That is correct.	5	information. And that is available to the
6	Q. Okay. I'm going to turn back now to	6	counties on a daily or weekly basis. So as
7	what is stamped as Bates stamp page 282.	7	they process those, that would be the time
8	Ms. Bell, do you see that the title of	8	frame from an elections side of things.
9	this slide is "Felony Removal Notice"?	9	O. Gotcha.
10	A. I do.	10	A. So that's all I can speak to.
11	Q. And does this represent a sample letter	11	Q. And is the county processing that
12	sent to voters notifying them that their name	12	information on a continual basis?
13	will be removed from the list of registered	13	A. Yes.
14	voters because they've been convicted of a	14	Q. They're not they don't only do it,
15	felony?	15	you know, once a year or twice a year or
16	A. That is what it's depicting, yes.	16	something like that?
17	Q. So to state it slightly differently:	17	A. That's correct.
18	This letter tells voters that they are now	18	Q. Okay. And am I correct that this
19	ineligible to vote because of their felony	19	letter is sent by the relevant county board of
20	conviction; is that correct?	20	elections in the voter's home county?
21	A. That is correct.	21	A. That is correct.
22	Q. Okay. Is it am I right that this	22	Q. Is this letter, though, a standard
23	letter is sent shortly after the conviction	23	template that's used by all counties?
24	takes place?	24	A. Yes, we do have a standard template
25	MR. COX: Calls for speculation.	25	letter.
	Page 35		Page 37
1	Objection.	1	Q. And is it the State Board of Elections
2	A. I was going to say. I mean, what do	2	that develops that standard template letter?
3	you mean by "shortly after"?	3	A. Yes.
4	Q. Sure. Roughly how long after a	4	Q. Okay. And I think we touched on this a
5	conviction takes place is this letter sent?	5	moment ago, but do counties rely on what was
6	A. Can you zoom in? Or, actually, I'd	6	the second database that we talked about on the
7	like to look at my procedures to give you the	7	previous slide, which was called the Felon
8	exact number of days.	8	State Matching List, to identify persons whose
9	Q. That would be fine.	9	names should be removed from the list of
10	A. I don't believe this page that you have	10	registered voters and sent this letter?
11	displayed indicates the number of days as we process voter registration reforms or not	11 12	A. That is data available to the counties
12	reforms forms. I'm sorry.	13	and that is a method that they use.
14	Q. Well, let me	14	Q. Is there any other method that they use to identify people who were reqistered to vote
15	A. So it's untimely. It's not	15	who should be removed because of felony
16	Q. Am I correct, Ms. Bell, that this	16	conviction other than that database or that
17	letter is sent to people who are already	17	list, I should say?
18	registered to vote who have been matched up to	18	A. I believe what you were showing on that
19	a voter registration record in SEIMS? Is that	19	previous slide were all the lists available to
20	correct?	20	the counties for them to use in processing.
21	A. That is correct. Yes. Sorry. I did	21	But that yes, that is the primary way that a
22	not state that quite right.	22	county would process for this for this
23	Q. Sure. So, just ballpark, is it fair to	23	notice.
24	say that this letter will be sent to voters	24	Q. Sure. You say it's the primary way,
25	within six months of their conviction?	25	and I guess what I'm just trying to clarify is,
1		1	

Page 38 Page 40 is there -- well, I'll go back to that other they're ineligible to register to vote because slide, just to be -- just so we can make sure 2 of a felony conviction? 3 we're on the same page. 3 A. This is the template, at the time, of So I'm referring to the Felon State the denial of registration letter, yes. 4 4 5 Matching List that matches up people who are on 5 Q. So this is for people who tried to 6 active felony status (inaudible) --6 register to vote; is that right? 7 THE REPORTER: Excuse me. I can't hear 7 A. That's right. 8 you. You're cutting out. 8 Q. Okay. And like the prior letter, is 9 MR. JACOBSON: I'm sorry. Can you hear 9 this letter sent by the relevant county board 10 me? 10 of elections? A. Yes. 11 THE REPORTER: Yes. Please repeat. 11 12 MR. JACOBSON: Okav. 12 Q. And like the prior letter, is it based BY MR. JACOBSON: 13 13 on a template that's developed by the State 14 Q. The second list here that we talked 14 Board? 15 about before, the Felon State Matching List, 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. And going back now to slide 286. that shows the current list of people who are 16 17 on active felony status who are also matched up 17 For purposes of that Denial Notice we 18 to an existing voter registration record; is 18 just looked at, am I correct that the counties 19 that right? 19 rely on this first list, the Felon County List, 20 A. That is right. 20 to identify people who should be sent that 21 Q. And so what I'm asking is: Other than 21 letter? 22 relying on this list, is there something 22 A. Yes. 23 else -- some other source that counties rely on 23 Q. So, Ms. Bell, we've just looked at two 24 to remove people who are already on the rolls, 24 separate notices that election officials send 25 from the rolls, because of a felony conviction? 25 to voters after their felony convictions, or Page 39 Page 41 A. There are two other items on this that may send to voters after their felony 1 2 particular slide that indicate other resources 2 convictions, advising them that they cannot 3 that the counties have. The one that you 3 vote; is that right? A. Yes. 4 noted, the Felon State Matching List, is the 4 5 primary, but they do still have access to the 5 Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, I didn't see any Felon County List that we've reviewed. And the similar letter in this document advising voters 6 7 7 one that you did not review is the DOC Felon after their sentence is completed that they're 8 Search. If they needed to clarify or review, 8 once again eligible to vote. 9 those would be available to them as well. 9 Is it correct that neither the State 10 Q. And is it your understanding that 10 Board of Elections nor a county board of 11 counties, in fact, do rely on those two other 11 elections send voters such a notification once 12 lists when identifying -- to identify people 12 they've become reeligible to vote? 13 MR. COX: Objection. Confusing. 13 who should be removed from the registration 14 rolls? 14 A. Would you state your question again, 15 A. They are available to them, but they 15 please? 16 would rely primarily on the Felon State 16 Q. Sure. So after a person finishes their 17 Matching List that you've asked about. 17 felony sentence, does either the State Board of Q. Okay. I'll turn now to page 283. 18 18 Elections or a county board of elections send 19 And, Ms. Bell, do you see that this 19 voters a notification telling them that they're 20 is -- this slide is titled "Denial Notice"? 20 now once again eligible to vote? A. I do. 21 21 A. We do not send a letter --22 Q. And does this slide -- does this letter 22 Q. Okay. And --23 on this slide represent a letter sent to people 23 A. -- of that nature. Sorry. who were not already registered to vote, or 24 Q. And we talked earlier here about the tried to register to vote, notifying them that 25 third and fourth bullet points -- or lists --

Page 42 Page 44 Felon Completed List and Felon Completed State can you tell me what you mean by that? Matching List? 2 A. We do not have -- the instruction in 2 3 A. Yes. 3 our law is not -- it does not instruct that it Q. Those lists provide details of people will be the county board of elections who would 4 4 5 who finished their felony sentences and are 5 make that contact --6 once again eligible to vote; is that right? 6 Q. Okay. Is there --7 A. Correct. They are no longer active --7 A. -- based upon these lists. 8 considered active felons. 8 Q. Is there anything in the law, based on 9 O. And am I correct that those databases 9 your understanding, that prohibits the county 10 contain contact information like name and last 10 boards of elections from contacting individuals known address? to tell them that they're once again eligible 11 11 12 A. I'm sorry. You cut out. 12 to vote? 13 Q. I'm sorry. The perils of remote 13 MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal 14 depositions. 14 conclusion. Am I correct that those databases 15 15 A. As I've mentioned, I'm not an attorney. 16 contain contact information for people such as 16 So I would need to confirm with counsel before 17 their name and last known address? 17 I would make that decision. 18 A. It still trails off at the end of your 18 Q. Okay. But sitting here today, you're 19 question. I'm sorry. 19 not aware of any law that would prohibit the 20 Q. That's okay. Can you hear me better? 20 counties from contacting people to tell them 21 21 A. I can. Yes. that they're once again eligible to vote, are 22 Q. Okay. I'll try my best to be heard. 22 you? 23 Am I correct that those two databases 23 A. Restate your question, please. 24 contain contact information such as name and 24 Q. Sure. Just sitting here today, as we last known address? 25 25 talk to each other, you're not aware of any law Page 43 Page 45 A. I believe that is correct. Yes. that would prevent the county boards of 1 1 2 Q. And you could -- the State Board could 2 elections from contacting people on these lists 3 use that contact information to contact people 3 and telling them that they're once again and tell them that they're now eligible to 4 4 eligible to vote? 5 vote, right? 5 A. The way that I best know to answer that 6 MR. COX: Objection. Calls for 6 is to say that we administer the law as it is 7 7 written. We -- it is not -- so if there's speculation. not -- if that's not within the law, then --8 A. We could use -- I don't -- that is not 8 9 a procedure that we have. I mean, is that a 9 you know, we have to be careful in our contact list? Could anyone send a letter? 10 administration that we do not exceed what the 10 11 Yes, anyone could send a letter. 11 law states either. 12 Q. Right. And the county boards could use 12 Q. Okay. But you're not aware of any law 13 that contact information to send a letter to 13 that prohibits it, are you? 14 people telling them that they're once again 14 A. To the best of my knowledge, no. 15 eligible to vote; is that right? Q. Okay. So from the standpoint of a 15 16 A. Your question is "could," and that 16 person convicted of a felony in North Carolina, 17 would imply: Do they have the ability or the even after their sentence is finished, the last 17 capability? "Could" is -- an answer to "could" communication they will have received from 18 18 19 is "yes." 19 election officials is something telling them 20 Q. Okay. But they don't do that, do they? 20 that they're not eligible to vote; is that 21 A. That is not what is -- that is not our right? 21 22 procedure or law. 22 MR. COX: Objection. Calls for 23 23 O. Okav. speculation. Vague. 24 A. So they do not keep that. 24 A. And I actually was going to ask you to

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restate your question, please.

Q. When you say that it's not their law,

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1	Page 46	1	Page 48
1 2	Q. Sure. Yes. I understand. That was a bad question.	1 2	Q. Okay. And would you agree, though, that at a minimum, a person in the situation we
3	So we talked before that when somebody	3	just talked about, with the last communication
4	is convicted of a felony, they receive a	4	they received directly from a state election
5	notice a letter from the county board of	5	official I'll rephrase the question.
6	elections telling them that they're not	6	Would you agree, at a minimum, that a
7	eligible to vote, correct?	7	person in a situation we just talked about,
8	A. If they are a registered voter and are	8	could be confused about their eligibility to
9	convicted of a felony, and we removed them,	9	vote?
10	then they receive a notice. Your question was,	10	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
11	if someone is convicted of a felony, that they	11	speculation.
12	receive a letter from the State Board or	12	A. I don't think I can speak to another's
13	from the Board of Elections and that would	13	state of mind.
14	not be correct for all individuals.	14	Q. Okay. If somebody if the last
15	Q. Okay. So somebody who was a registered	15	communication they received from an election
16	voter, after they're convicted, they receive a	16	official is something telling them they're not
17	letter from the county board of elections	17	eligible to vote, could you understand how that
18	telling them they're not eligible to vote; is	18	person could then be confused about their
19	that right?	19	eligibility to vote even after they've finished
20	A. That is correct.	20	their sentence?
21	Q. And that same person, after they finish	21	MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not
22	their sentence, does not receive a letter from	22	in evidence.
23	the county board of elections telling them that	23	A. The letter actually might be the
24	they're once again eligible to vote, right?	24	clarification that they need not to create
25	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	25	confusion.
	The con- objection. Taked the	23	Confubion.
	Page 47	_	Page 49
1	answered.	1	Q. I'm sorry. Can you explain to me what
2	A. They do not receive a letter from the	2	you mean by that?
3	State Board of Elections or county board of	3	A. Your assertion is that by receiving the
4	elections.	4	letter, it confuses someone about their state
5	Q. Okay. So for such a person, the last	5	of registration. But the fact that they
6	communication they will receive from either the	6	receive a letter stating that they're not
7	State Board of Elections or the county board of	7	registered might actually be not confusing but
8	elections will have been that letter telling	8	rather provide clarity to them of their status
9	them they're not eligible to vote, right? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	9	of registration.
10	speculation.	10	Q. Ms. Bell, you mentioned before that I think I heard you say the Department of
11	•	11	Public Safety is tasked with handing people
12	A. Actually, I could say that we work with the probation and parole and DPS and provide	12	some information after they finish their
13	them with brochures that are provided to		sentence about their voting rights. Is that
14	_	14	
15 16	someone who has completed their sentence. Therefore, that is a communication from the	16	correct? A. That's correct.
	State Board of Elections or county board of	17	A. That's correct. Q. Does the State Board have any
17	elections. It's just not in the form of a	18	procedures for ensuring that the Department of
19	letter.	19	Public Safety actually distributes that
20	Q. But the State Board of Elections and	20	information?
	-		
21 22	the county board of elections, they don't send that themselves, right, to people who have	21 22	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. Sorry. What do you mean by
~~	cinc chemberses, right, to beobte and have	44	A. BOLLY. WHAT GO YOU WEAT DY
22	finished their sentences?	23	"procedures"?
23	finished their sentences? A No it is provided to DPS and the court	23	"procedures"?
23 24 25	finished their sentences? A. No, it is provided to DPS and the court system to provide to those individuals.	23 24 25	"procedures"? Q. Does the State Board do anything to ensure that the DPS, the Department of Public

Page 50 Page 52 Safety, distributes that information about the 1 think it might be a good time. restoration of voting rights to individuals 2 MR. JACOBSON: Sure. 3 after they've completed their sentence? 3 (Recess from 9:55 to 10:02 a.m.) (Plaintiff's B premarked.) 4 A. We have worked with that agency and 4 5 have been in communication with them to provide 5 BY MR. JACOBSON: them with materials. And they have a checklist 6 6 Q. Ms. Bell, as I mentioned a moment ago, that they review that indicates -- and one of 7 7 I would like to now turn to people convicted of 8 the items on their checklist is to review that 8 federal felony crimes. 9 with someone when they've completed their 9 And I've pulled up what's been marked 10 sentence. 10 as Exhibit B. And this is a title "Biennial List Maintenance," and in parentheses it says, 11 Q. Other than providing DPS with those 11 12 materials, does the State Board take any 12 "(No-Contact Process)." 13 measures to ensure that DPS actually 13 Have you seen this document before, 14 distributes those materials? 14 Ms. Bell? 15 15 A. I think the best answer I can give you A. I believe so, yes. I'm not seeing a 16 is that we are in a routine and set schedule, whole lot of it right now, so... 16 17 but we are in -- we are -- we have 17 Q. I'm going to zoom out a bit. 18 communication that is ongoing with that agency. 18 A. Okay. So there is assurance there. Does that -- I 19 19 Q. And I'm happy to scroll over. 20 don't know if I'm answering your question. 20 You believe you've seen this document 21 Q. Sure. So maybe you can explain it to 21 before? 22 me. How does that -- how do those 22 A. Yes. communications provide an assurance that DPS is 23 23 Q. Okay. And can you confirm, to the best actually distributing these materials that 24 of your ability, that this is a true and 25 we're talking about? 25 accurate copy of a document produced by the Page 51 Page 53 A. I don't know that I have an answer for State Board of Elections as part of discovery 1 1 2 you. 2 in this case? 3 Q. Okay. Do you know the volume -- beyond 3 A. You cut out a little bit. I'm sorry. 4 just materials relating to voting rights, do 4 Q. Can you confirm, to the best of your 5 you know how many materials DPS distributes to 5 ability, that this is a true and accurate copy 6 an individual after they complete their felony of a document produced by the State Board in 6 7 7 this case? sentence? 8 8 A. I do not know. A. Yes, I believe it is. 9 Q. So you don't know if they might hand 9 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn now to what's been marked as Bates stamped page 333. 10 out a hundred different documents? 10 11 A. I don't work in that agency, and I'm 11 Ms. Bell, do you see this top paragraph 12 not a probation or parole officer, so I would 12 here? And you can take a moment to read it. 13 not know. 13 But do you see it says that the State Board 14 Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, to this point, 14 receives quarterly reports from the federal everything we've been discussing has been about US Attorney's Office about people who have been 15 15 16 convictions in the North Carolina state court. 16 convicted of a felony crime in the federal 17 I would like to now discuss individuals 17 court? convicted of felony crimes. 18 18 A. Yes, I do see that. 19 And for that I'll pull up what's been 19 Q. And then do you see in the second 20 marked as Plaintiffs' Exhibit 2 -- or 20 paragraph here -- and, again, you can take a 21 Exhibit --21 moment to read it -- it says that county boards 22 THE WITNESS: Would this be a good time 22 of elections should cancel the registrations on 23 for a break? 23 anyone listed on those lists received from the 24 MR. JACOBSON: Sure. 24 federal US Attorney's Offices? THE WITNESS: You're shifting gears. I 25 25 MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the

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1	Page 54 evidence.	1	Page 56 Q. Thank you.
2	A. Would you restate your question? And	2	If the North Carolina Board of
3	then I'll read the paragraph.	3	Elections and the county boards of elections
4	Q. Sure. Do you see that it says in the	4	don't receive information from federal
5	second paragraph that county boards of	5	officials about when people have finished their
6	elections should initiate steps to cancel a	6	felony sentences, won't the state boards
7	voter's registration if they're on that list	7	databases or lists continue to assume that such
8	received from the federal US Attorney's	8	a person isn't eliqible to vote even though
9	Offices?	9	they've finished their federal sentence?
10	A. It does state that, yes.	10	A. So I'm not trying to be smart here, but
11	O. Okay. And do county boards of	11	a database can't assume anything.
12	elections send letters, like the ones we looked	12	•
13	at earlier, the removal notice and the denial	13	Q. Sure. So the Board, we just discussed on the top of this page, you receive lists of
14	notice, to individuals convicted of federal	14	
15	·		people who have been convicted of federal felonies, right?
	felony crimes?	15 16	· •
16	A. They do send those notices, yes.		A. Yes.
17	Q. And similar to those notices before, or	17	Q. And from those lists, the State Board
18	maybe the same as those notices before, do	18	and the county board uses those lists to deny
19	those advise voters that either their names are	19	people registration or to remove their
20	being removed from the list of registered	20	registrations, right?
21	voters or that their application to register to	21	A. Correct.
22	vote has been denied?	22	Q. Okay. And the State Board continues to
23	A. That is the intent of those letters,	23	maintain those lists, right, on an ongoing
24	yes.	24	basis?
25	Q. And is it the exact same letter that we	25	A. As we receive the reports, yes.
		1	
	Page 55		Page 57
1	Page 55 looked at before that is sent to people with	1	Page 57 Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished
1 2		1	8
	looked at before that is sent to people with	1	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished
2	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court?	1 2	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right?
2 3	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court? A. I do believe so, yes. Q. We discussed earlier how the Board receives information from the North Carolina	1 2 3	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right? let's say it's finished, tries to register to
2 3 4	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court? A. I do believe so, yes. Q. We discussed earlier how the Board	1 2 3 4	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right? let's say it's finished, tries to register to vote, won't their registration be denied
2 3 4 5	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court? A. I do believe so, yes. Q. We discussed earlier how the Board receives information from the North Carolina	1 2 3 4 5	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right? let's say it's finished, tries to register to vote, won't their registration be denied because the current information that the Board
2 3 4 5 6	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court? A. I do believe so, yes. Q. We discussed earlier how the Board receives information from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety about when a person	1 2 3 4 5 6	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right? let's say it's finished, tries to register to vote, won't their registration be denied because the current information that the Board has is just from that list we talked about,
2 3 4 5 6 7	looked at before that is sent to people with felony convictions in federal court? A. I do believe so, yes. Q. We discussed earlier how the Board receives information from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety about when a person convicted of a state crime has completed his or	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Q. Okay. So if a person, who has finished their federal felony sentence right? let's say it's finished, tries to register to vote, won't their registration be denied because the current information that the Board has is just from that list we talked about, that they've committed a crime, a federal
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30(k	(v) Kuren Brinson L		1 uges 5001
1	Page 58 felony.	1	Page 60 A. Any individual who completes a voter
2	Q. Sure. But I believe you said a few	2	registration form and attests to their
3	minutes ago that you also use this list to deny	3	qualifications to register, if they attest to
4	registrations to people who try to register for	4	that, we will process the voter registration
5	the first time. Isn't that what you stated?	5	form. If we find a match with these reports,
6	A. I may have misunderstood your question,	6	then they would be denied registration and
7	then.	7	removed from the registration list.
8	Q. Okay. So if somebody is convicted of a	8	Q. Okay. So in our hypothetical, John Doe
9	federal crime, and you receive their name on a	9	tries to register to vote, or he fills it out,
10	list from the US Attorney's Office, and then a	10	and he attests that he's eligible. But then
11	week later tries to register to vote so	11	you would get a match right? saying he's
12	they're still on their federal sentence are	12	on this US attorney's report, just like you
	_		
13	they going to be allowed to register to vote?	13	just said, and he would be sent a denial
14	A. Let me make sure that I'm clear on the	14	notice. Is that right?
15	steps you're outlining.	15	A. I believe we're saying the same thing.
16	Q. Sure.	16	Yes.
17	A. If we received notice that John Doe is	17	Q. Okay. So now I'm going to just change
18	convicted of a felony, and he then attempts to	18	the hypothetical slightly.
19	register to vote?	19	John Doe finishes his federal
20	Q. Correct.	20	sentence so he's done with his federal
21	A. Are you saying that he's already in our	21	sentence and then he tries to register to
22	database as a registered voter and we've	22	vote for the first time.
23	removed him because now he's updating his	23	Okay? Are you with me on that
24 25	registration?	24	hypothetical? A. Yes.
23	Q. No. So John Doe has never registered	23	A. 165.
1	Page 59	1	Page 61
	to vote before in North Carolina. Okay?	1	Q. Won't his name still come up as a match
2	That's the are you with me on my hypo so	2	to this quarterly report that you receive from
3	far?	3	the US Attorney's Office after his conviction?
4	A. Yes.	4 5	A. Did he attest to having completed his
5	Q. He's then convicted of a federal crime. Okay?	6	felony sentence, that he is no that he is not a felon?
7	A. Okay.	7	Q. He attested it to the same way he did
8	Q. And then you receive his name on one of	8	in the prior hypothetical, where he was not
9	these quarterly reports from the US Attorney's	9	telling the truth, but this time he is.
10	Office. Okay?	10	A. I believe if you'll scroll down on your
11	A. After he's registered to vote.	11	document, you'll find the answer to your
12	Q. No, he hasn't tried to register to	12	question.
13	vote.	13	Q. What page am I looking for on the
14	A. Okay.	14	document?
15	Q. After you receive his name from the	15	A. Let's stop right here. And if you look
16	US Attorney's Office from one of these	16	at the very first question, it says:
17	quarterly reports he tries to register to	17	"If a county does not update the
18	vote. He's still serving his federal sentence,	18	removal reason to Felony Sentence Completed
19	though. Will he be allowed	19	for a previously removed voter, will the
20	A. Did he	20	SEIMS prevent the new voter's registration
21	Q. Go ahead.	21	from being processed?"
22	A. Did he attest on his voter registration	22	"No. SEIMS will not prevent the
23	form that he is not a felon?	23	processing of a registration of a
24	Q. Sure. Will he be allowed to register	24	previously removed voter whose citizenship
25	to vote?	25	rights have been restored even if the

			1 uges 02.102
1	Page 62 removal reason still indicates FELONY	1	Page 64 convicted of a crime in North Carolina state
2	CONVICTION."	2	court, the Board of Elections maintains
3	BY MR. JACOBSON:	3	databases called the Felon Completed List and
4	Q. Ms. Bell, how does the State Board or	4	the Felon Completed Matching List. And I'm
5	the county board know that this person is	5	using the word "databases," but I don't mean
6	eligible to vote if they don't receive any	6	that in a technical sense. It maintains lists
7	information from the federal officials that the	7	showing people who have finished their
8	person has finished their sentence?	8	sentences in order to inform election officials
9	A. The voter attested to it.	9	about who is, once again, eligible to vote,
10	Q. Ms. Bell, am I correct that in the	10	right?
11	context of a state court conviction, that we	11	A. Right.
12	talked about earlier, you maintain databases	12	Q. It does not maintain a comparable list
13	called Felon Completed List I can go back	13	for people who have finished their federal
14	just to make sure I'm getting the names exactly	14	felony sentences?
15	right Felon Completed List and Felon	15	A. I do not know of us being provided with
16	Completed State Matching List, based on data	16	a federal list. Correct.
17	you receive from the North Carolina Department	17	Q. Okay. We spoke earlier, Ms. Bell,
18	of Public Safety, right?	18	about how, when people finish their state court
19	A. Yes.	19	sentences, the Department of Public Safety is
20	O. And we talked about before that that's	20	supposed to hand them information about
21	information that shows you who has finished	21	restoration of their rights; is that correct?
22	their state federal sentence, which now shows	22	A. Yes.
23	you who is once again eligible to vote. Right?	23	Q. The Department of Public Safety, to the
24	A. Yes.	24	best of your knowledge, they don't hand
25	Q. You don't the State Board does not	25	information to people who finish their federal
	*		
1			
	Page 63	1	Page 65
1	possess any analogous list for people who have	1	sentences; is that correct?
2	possess any analogous list for people who have finished their federal sentences, right?	2	sentences; is that correct? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
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1	Page 66 after they've finished their sentences about	1	Page 68 done by the Department of Public Instruction,
2	the restoration of their voting rights?	2	since that's how we receive information as the
3	A. I do not know that.	3	State and county board of elections. We do
4	Q. Okay. So to the best of your	4	not
5	knowledge, you're not aware if anybody provides	5	Q. Let me try to clarify that just to make
6	information to individuals who finish their	6	sure we're on the same page.
7	federal sentences about the restoration of	7	So let's say an individual is convicted
8	their voting rights?	8	of a crime in South Carolina right over the
9	A. I do not know if they do or do not.	9	border, let's say but they live in
10	Q. Okay. I'd like to now turn to	10	North Carolina, and they're serving their
11	individuals who are convicted of crimes in	11	probation in North Carolina, while they live in
12	another state's courts; for instance, in a	12	North Carolina.
13	South Carolina state court.	13	Do the county boards of elections in
14	A. Okay.	14	North Carolina send that person a notice
15	Q. Ms. Bell, do you understand that	15	saying, "You're not eligible to vote in
16	individuals convicted of crimes in another	16	North Carolina elections"?
17	state's courts, if they're serving their	17	A. We do not notify someone in another
18	community supervision while living in	18	state that they are ineliqible to vote in
19	North Carolina, they're not eligible to vote?	19	North Carolina. No.
20	Correct? If it's a federal offense? I'm	20	Q. So just to clarify, the person in my
21	sorry. I'm going to start that over.	21	hypothetical lives in North Carolina.
22	If an individual is convicted of a	22	A. Correct.
23	felony in another state's courts, but is	23	Q. They were convicted of a crime in
24	serving their community supervision in	24	South Carolina, but they live in North
25	North Carolina, while living in North Carolina,	25	Carolina. They're serving their probation from
1	Page 67 is it your understanding that they're	1	Page 69 their South Carolina conviction while they live
2	ineligible to vote in North Carolina elections?	2	in North Carolina. Okay?
3	A. That would be correct.	3	A. Correct. Okay.
4	Q. Okay. Does the State Board receive	4	Q. And let's say they're a North Carolina
5	information about such individuals from any	5	registered voter. Okay?
6	source?	6	A. Uh-huh.
7	A. Because we do not have a national	7	Q. Does the county board of elections send
8	network, we would be reliant upon other states	8	that person any notification that they're not
9	to notify us.	9	eligible to vote?
10	Q. And to the best of your knowledge, do	10	A. If we received a notice, which I can't
11	any other states notify you of that?	11	say whether we would or would not if we
12	A. I do not know one way or the other.	12	received a notice from a court or from, you
13	Q. Okay. To the best of your knowledge,	13	know, South Carolina's system, then that would
14	does the State Board of Elections or the county	14	be we could send notice. But the the
15	boards of elections notify such individuals	15	source of information that our county boards of
16	that they are ineligible to vote in	16	elections receive, and that we receive at the
17	North Carolina elections?	17	State Board of Elections, is from the
18	A. I do not know.	18	North Carolina court system.
19	Q. Okay. To the best of your knowledge	19	Q. Okay. So to the best of your
20	A. Actually, let me ask you to state that	20	knowledge, you're not aware that county boards
21	question again. Because I believe you asked if	21	of elections would send such a person a notice?
22	the State Board of Elections or county board of	22	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and
23	elections would give notice of a felony to	23	answered.
24	someone else in another state. That would not	24	THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. What was
25	be our role. Reporting a felon is, obviously,	25	that, Paul?

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1	Page 70 MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	1	Page 72 document is that after the 2016 election the
2	answered.	2	State Board conducted an audit to identify
3	A. Yes. Correct.	3	persons who voted in the 2016 general election
4	Q. Okay. Does the State Board of	4	but were ineligible due to a felony conviction.
5	Elections or county board of elections receive	5	Is that right?
6	information when such a person has completed	6	A. That's correct.
7	their sentence?	7	O. Does the State Board still conduct
8	A. In another state?	8	audits after elections?
9	Q. The exact same person we were just	9	A. We have not done one. This is the only
10	talking about, who is convicted in	10	time this audit was completed.
11	South Carolina, but they're living in	11	Q. Is the State Board planning to do a
12	North Carolina, while they're serving their	12	similar audit after the 2020 election?
13	probation?	13	A. The State Board, as a board, has not
14	A. We do not have a systematic process for	14	directed for that, and I have not, as executive
15	that.	15	director, so no.
16	Q. Okay. And so for such people, when	16	Q. Okay. But it's possible you'll conduct
17	they've finished their sentence, am I correct	17	future audits again after future elections?
18	that neither the State Board of Elections nor	18	A. In my role as executive director, I do
19	the county board of elections sends such person	19	not have plans to request this audit, and I
20	a notification telling them that they're once	20	have not had that expressed by this board, and
21	again eligible to vote?	21	I can't speak for current boards.
22	A. No, we would not send a letter to	22	Q. Okay. Fair enough. I'm going to now
23	someone who has completed their sentence in	23	scroll to page 3 of this document, which is
24	another state.	24	Bates stamped page 409.
25	(Plaintiffs' C premarked.)	25	Can you see what's on my screen,
	(2101101112 O F1011011)		
1	Page 71 BY MR. JACOBSON:	1	Page 73 Ms. Bell?
2	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, I'm going to turn now	2	A. I can.
3	to what's been marked as Exhibit C.	3	Q. And this we're looking now at the
4	A. Okay.	4	section that's titled "FELONS," in all
5	Q. I'm going to share my screen if I can	5	capitals. And the second sentence reads:
6	figure out how.	6	"NCSBE" and I should clarify. That was the
7	Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this	7	prior name for the State Board of Elections; is
8	is a document titled Post-Selection Audit	8	that right?
9	Report.	9	A. Actually, that that would we'll
10	A. I do.	10	have several iterations. We also have
11	Q. Have you seen this document before?	11	abbreviated it in numerous ways. This is,
12	A. I have.	12	actually, an abbreviation that we currently
13	Q. And can you confirm, to the best of	13	use, that stands for North Carolina State Board
14			
15	your knowledge, that this is a true and	14	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the
		14 15	
16	your knowledge, that this is a true and		of Elections. Yes, that actually is the
16 17	your knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document produced by the	15	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the current
	your knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case?	15 16	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the current Q. Got it. I will admit I lose track of
17	your knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. It does appear to be.	15 16 17	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the current Q. Got it. I will admit I lose track of all the names that your agency has had over the
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17 18 19 20 21 22	your knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. It does appear to be. Q. Okay. And, then, Ms. Bell, is this an audit report written by the State Board of Elections after the 2016 general election? A. It is. That is the title. Q. And it's dated April 21, 2017; is that	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the current Q. Got it. I will admit I lose track of all the names that your agency has had over the last few years. A. And there's different perspectives on which ones should be used. So we'll Q. I understand. I'll try to avoid that land mine.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	your knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. It does appear to be. Q. Okay. And, then, Ms. Bell, is this an audit report written by the State Board of Elections after the 2016 general election? A. It is. That is the title. Q. And it's dated April 21, 2017; is that correct?	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	of Elections. Yes, that actually is the current Q. Got it. I will admit I lose track of all the names that your agency has had over the last few years. A. And there's different perspectives on which ones should be used. So we'll Q. I understand. I'll try to avoid that land mine. So the second sentence here reads:

Page 74 Page 76 audits followed by investigator review." 1 active sentences, but to people who actually 2 Do you see that? 2 voted in the election? 3 A. I do. 3 A. I can try to determine from this Q. Okay. And where this refers to "a document what the audit may have been, if it's 4 4 5 system of data audits," is that using the 5 stated, but I did not perform the audit, nor database, the DPS database -- or I'm sorry, the 6 6 was I the executive director when the audit was performed. So I can only attest to what it 7 DPS list -- we discussed previously that has a 7 8 list of registered voters -- I'm sorry -- that 8 states that audits were performed. 9 has a list of active felons who are ineligible 9 Q. Okay. It's fair to say that they use to vote? 10 10 some sort of matching criteria to match the 11 A. I believe that may -- that that was a 11 list of people who are serving felony sentences 12 source within this audit. 12 to the list of people who voted to come up with Q. And we discussed earlier how -- for 13 13 this list? Is that fair? 14 that second database we discussed earlier -- so 14 A. I think that's fair. 15 putting this aside -- DPS, on a continual 15 Q. Okay. So I'm going to go back now to basis, matches the list of people convicted of 16 16 page 408, Bates stamp page 408 of this 17 felony crimes to people -- to registered voters 17 document. And can I ask you to take a moment 18 in the SEIMS database to determine who should 18 to just read this first bullet point here that 19 have their registrations canceled. Is that 19 starts with, "441 open cases." 20 right? 20 A. Read it for myself or read it aloud? 21 21 Q. You can just read it to yourself. A. That's correct. 22 Q. Okay. And is the system that was used 22 A. Okay. And just the first bullet point? here to match people who actually voted in an 23 Q. Correct. election to the DPS database, is that a similar 24 A. Okay. (Reviewing.) Okay. Q. Does that first bullet point indicate matching process to the one that's used for 25 Page 75 Page 77 purposes of that list we discussed earlier? that through the data matching process we just 1 2 MR. COX: Objection. Vague. 2 discussed, the State Board initially identified 3 A. Yeah. State your question again. 3 541 people who may have illegally voted due to Q. Sure. That was a terrible question, I a felony conviction, with the 541 being the 441 4 4 5 will admit. 5 people listed in that first sentence plus the 6 A. I'm not judging. 6 hundred people who further investigation ruled 7 7 Q. I'll judge myself here. out? 8 Previously we discussed how, on a 8 A. Okay. I do really need you to state 9 continual basis, the State Board of Elections 9 that question again -is using some sort of matching system to match 10 10 Q. Sure. 11 the list of people who are serving an active 11 A. -- because I got hung up on the 12 felony sentence to the list of names in your 12 numbers, so... SEIMS database, right? 13 13 Q. Sure. Does this first bullet indicate 14 A. Yes. 14 that through the data matching process we just 15 discussed, the State Board initially identified Q. And there's some sort of matching 15 16 criteria that are used, right? 16 541 people who may have illegally voted due to 17 A. That's correct. 17 a felony conviction? 18 Q. And here it describes a "system of data 18 A. It does indicate that they were able to 19 audits" that was used for purposes of this 19 rule out more than 100 voters initially 20 audit, right? 20 flagged. So 100 to the 441 open cases is 541. 21 A. Yes. 21 So it does state "more than," so there could 22 Q. And so what I'm asking is: Was that 22 potentially be more than a hundred that were 23 system of data audits using a similar matching 23 ruled out. process of matching the SEIMS database -- I'm 24 Q. Okay. Sure. But let's -- I'll just assume -- I'll just use the number 100 for sorry -- matching the list of felons serving 25

3 0(D	30(b)(c) Karen Brinson Beil on 0//16/20/20 Pages /881				
	Page 78		Page 80		
1	purposes of my next question.	1	investigators showed that roughly 20 percent of		
2	So just based on this data in this	2	the people who are identified as illegally		
3	bullet, the false positive rate that resulted	3	voting through the data matching turned out to		
4	from the data matching was nearly 20 percent,	4	be false positives, right?		
5	right? 100 out of 541?	5	A. In this particular report or audit,		
6	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	6	yes.		
7	A. It would require you to use math	7	Q. So doesn't that suggest to you that		
8	skills, but I believe that's fairly correct.	8	roughly 20 percent of the people whose		
9	Q. Okay. And that error rate was so	9	registrations are canceled because they're		
10	significant that the State Board wrote here	10	matched to that SEIMS database, that they are		
11	that, "it further supported the need for	11	erroneously identified as false positives?		
12	investigative review of data audits." Is that	12	MR. COX: Objection. Speculation.		
13	right?	13	A. I don't think I can make that as a		
14	A. It does state that, yes.	14	blanket statement. I think that's what this		
15	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, we talked earlier	15	particular audit produced.		
16	about I'm sorry. Give me one second.	16	Q. Sitting here today, do you have any		
17	Ms. Bell, we talked in the context	17	reason to assert that the data matching that's		
18	of sorry. Bear with me a second.	18	done on a continual basis to remove		
19	A. You're fine.	19	registrations produces fewer false positives		
20	Q. Ms. Bell, so, in the context we talked	20	than the process that was used to identify		
21	about earlier, where the State Board is on a	21	people who voted illegally in the 2016 election		
22	continual basis taking in a list of people	22	as shown in this audit?		
23	serving active felony sentences and comparing	23	A. Since we have not conducted another		
24	it to the SEIMS database, in that context, the	24	audit, I don't know that I have and can answer		
25	State Board doesn't conduct any further	25	affirmatively or negatively.		
	Page 79		Page 81		
1	investigation into the circumstances of each	1	Q. So sitting here today, you don't have		
2	person before it initiates the cancellation	2	any information to suggest that the false		
3	process, right?	3	positive rate or the current ongoing		
4	A. There's a there's a criteria a	4	identification of people whose registration		
5	matching criteria, and that's the audits	5	should be matched or should be canceled		
6	performed or the process that's performed.	6	is lower than it was in these audits?		
7	Q. Right. So if the matching criteria	7	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and		
8	pops up and it's a hit, then that person will	8	answered.		
9	be sent a letter telling them that their	9	A. We have not conducted further audits.		
10	registration can be canceled right?	10	So I do not have an analysis to support one way		
11	A. In the nutshell, yes. I mean, there's	11	or the other.		
12	some steps in between there, but yes.	12	Q. And assuming just assuming for the		
13	Q. Okay. And the State Board doesn't have	13	purposes of this question that the false		
14	investigators do a person-by-person	14	positive rates for your continual process of		
15	investigation into each person who matches up	15	matching people to the registration records is		
16	on the list to, you know, confirm that, in	16	the same as the false positive rating from the		
17	fact, they are they were convicted of a	17	matching process that happened after the 2016		
18	felony and should be removed from the rolls,	18	election, that would mean that roughly		
19	right?	19	20 percent of the people whose registrations		
20	A. There is not an investigation done on	20	are canceled are false positives; is that		
21	each of those individuals. That is correct.	21	right?		
22	We do not have that large of an investigations	22	A. You're asking me to speculate that		
23	division, for starters.	23	current matching would be the false		
24	Q. And we just talked about that, in the	24	positives would be equal to what was found in		
25	context of this audit, further investigation by	25	this particular audit.		

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1	Page 82 Q. I'm asking you just to assume that. So	1	Page 84 North Carolina General Assembly passed a law
2	assume for the sake of my question that the	2	that essentially eliminated, quote, parole?
3	false positive rate is the same. Doesn't that	3	A. I know that there have been changes in
4	mean that roughly 20 percent of people whose	4	parole, but I do not know, as a person
5	registrations are canceled, based on the	5	working I don't know beyond that. I don't
6	ongoing matching process, had their	6	work in that division.
7	registration erroneously canceled as false	7	Q. Sure. So, Ms. Bell, did you not know
8	positives?	8	that, quote, parole essentially does not exist
9	MR. COX: Objection. Incomplete	9	in North Carolina today?
10	hypothetical.	10	MR. COX: Objection. States facts not
11	A. I think the best I can say is that if	11	in evidence. Calls for a legal conclusion.
12	this is the measure, then that is possible, but	12	A. I think I I think I would have to
13	there could be other audits that would prove	13	have you I would have to have more
14	differently if we were to conduct those audits.	14	knowledge.
15	•	15	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, did you know that in
	Q. Okay. I'd like to now switch gears a	16	
16	bit and talk about some of the the forms	'	the 1994 law that I mentioned a moment ago, the
17	that voters actually have to fill out that were	17	Structured Sentencing Act, North Carolina
18	produced in discovery. And I'm going to pull	18	replaced parole with something called
19	up now what's been marked as Exhibit E.	19	"post-release supervision" for people who are
20	(Plaintiffs' E premarked.)	20	released from incarceration but still subject
21	BY MR. JACOBSON:	21	to supervision?
22	Q. Ms. Bell, this is a do you recognize	22	MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the
23	this document?	23	law.
24	A. I do.	24	A. I am familiar I am not familiar with
25	Q. And can you confirm that this appears	25	the precise law. I am familiar with a
1	Page 83	1	Page 85
	to be a true and accurate copy of a document	1	change that there has been a change in what
2	produced by the State Board in discovery in	2	I would say is terminology, though, I do
3	this case?	3	know I do know parole would still be a
4	A. It does appear to be so, yes.	4	common term.
5	Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the voter	5	Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the term
6	registration form that the State Board	6	post-release supervision?
7	currently makes available for people to	7	A. I have been I actually did not know
8	register to vote?	8	of that term until I became executive director.
9	A. It is.	9	Q. But you're familiar with that term
10	Q. And now turn to the second page, which	10	today?
11	is Bates stamped page 352. And I'm going to	11	A. Yes.
12	direct your attention, Ms. Bell, to instruction	12	Q. Okay. And what is that term? What do
13	1 in subpart 5 here.	13	you understand that term to mean?
14	Do you see where it says: "If	14	A. The way that I came to understand it is
15	previously convicted of a felony, you must have	15	that it is a it is the term used in lieu of
16	fully completed your sentence, including	16	the term "parole" now. As far as I know, they
17	probation and/or parole"?	17	are the same processes or the same entity with
18	A. Yes, that is what it states.	18	a different term.
19	Q. Ms. Bell, are you familiar with the	19	Q. Ms. Bell, is it your understanding that
20	Structured Sentencing Act of 1994?	20	North Carolina's felony disenfranchisement laws
21	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	21	apply to people who are on post-release
22	A. Actually, I don't know I don't know	22	supervision, meaning that they're not allowed
23	it by that I don't know that one way or the	23	to vote until their post-release supervision is
24	other. I don't know, by that time.	24	completed?
25	Q. Are you aware that in 1994, the	25	A. That is my understanding.

Page 86 Page 88 1 Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, I would like you to this is me speaking personally -- as an engaged put yourself in the shoes of someone who is on 2 citizen, someone who works in the governmental 3 post-release supervision and who reads this 3 entity, and yet, until recently, I did not know form saying, "You must have completed your 4 4 that that terminology had been changed, it is 5 sentence, including and/or parole," without 5 perhaps, actually, easier for someone to 6 mentioning post-release supervision. 6 understand what parole is than post-licensing 7 7 Could such a person think they're supervision. So I don't want to speculate one 8 eligible to vote because post-release 8 way or the other. Because of how terminology 9 supervision isn't mentioned here? 9 has changed because of the law, we interchange 10 MR. COX: Objection. Outside the scope 10 terminology quite frequently in other -- there 11 of the deposition notice. 11 are other instances where we do that. 12 Objection. Speculative. 12 Q. So, Ms. Bell, I'm not asking you to put THE WITNESS: Should I proceed on that, 13 13 yourself in the shoes of another person. I'm 14 Paul? 14 just saying in your own shoes. Hypothetically, 15 15 if somebody who is on post-release supervision MR. COX: You can answer it if you have 16 personal knowledge that would allow you to 16 reads this sentence, and then you happen to be 17 answer it. 17 standing right next to them while they're reading it, and they said, "Ms. Bell, I think I 18 THE WITNESS: Okay. 18 19 A. And I'm sorry. Could you state your 19 might be eligible to vote because this doesn't 20 20 mention post-release supervision," can you question again? 21 Q. Sure. Put yourself in the shoes of 21 understand why that person would think that? 22 somebody who is on post-release supervision, 22 A. I can -- what I can state is that when 23 who reads this instruction 1, number 5, where someone questions whether they're eligible to 23 24 it says you can't vote if you -- or it says, 24 vote or not, in particular, with an individual 25 "You must have fully completed your sentence, 25 who is a felon or has completed their felony Page 87 Page 89 including probation and/or parole," but does sentence, and they're not certain, we aren't 1 2 not mention post-release supervision. Could 2 probation officers, we aren't officers of the 3 such a person think that they're eligible to 3 court; therefore, we say that it's best for 4 vote because post-release supervision is not 4 them to speak with that officer if they need 5 mentioned here? 5 clarification. 6 MR. COX: Objection. Outside the scope 6 Q. So just to make sure I understand that 7 7 answer. You're saying that the State Board of of the deposition notice. 8 Objection. Calls for speculation. 8 Elections does not provide clarification to 9 If you have knowledge and the ability 9 individuals about their eligibility to vote? 10 to answer it, you can answer it. 10 A. We give them clarification as defined 11 A. I don't think I have -- you've asked me 11 here as best as to our knowledge, but if they 12 to put myself in someone else's shoes. I don't 12 still don't -- if they don't know the 13 know whether that makes it clear or unclear for 13 distinction between parole or post-licensing, 14 them. 14 as you mentioned, or if they don't know what 15 probation is, then the best thing I can do as Q. Okay. I'll give you this as a 15 16 hypothetical. Let's say somebody on 16 an election official is to say, "That's outside 17 post-release supervision reads this form and 17 of the scope of elections, and you should speak 18 says -- comes up to you -- you just happen to 18 with your officer as to whether you have 19 be standing there -- and they say, "I think I 19 completed your sentence or not." 20 might be eligible to vote because this doesn't 20 Q. Sure. So I'm just going to ask one mention post-release supervision." Could you 21 21 more time, though. My question was simply that 22 understand why that person would think that? 22 hypothetical person, and they say to you, "I 23 A. The best answer I can give you is that 23 think I might be eligible to vote, because this

24

25

doesn't mention post-release supervision,"

could you, at least, understand why they would

I don't know if I can put myself in someone

else's shoes. And by the fact that as -- and

30 (n	1 ages 309			
1	Page 90 think that?	1	Page 92 supervision. Am I characterizing that	
2	A. Are you asking me as Karen Brinson	2	correctly?	
3	Bell, or are you asking I	3	A. Yes. I think that's accurate.	
4	Q. I'm asking you as the representative	4	Correct.	
5	here for the State Board of Elections.	5	Q. Okay. So do you see number 4 here	
6	A. I think that I've expressed before,	6	says: "I have not been convicted of a felony,	
7	I think it's difficult for me to assert what	7	or if I have been convicted of a felony, I have	
8	someone would have as confusion or not	8	completed my sentence, including any	
9	confusion.	9	probation"?	
10	Q. But can you at least understand why	10	A. I do.	
11	they would say that?	11	O. And so that doesn't even mention	
12	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	12	parole, does it, Ms. Bell?	
13	answered.	13	A. It does not.	
14	A. I don't think I can answer a question	14	Q. And it does not mention post-release	
15	about understanding as a representative of an	15	supervision?	
16	organization versus understanding is about	16	A. Correct.	
17	my individual understanding, not the	17	Q. So, again, I'll ask, if you put	
18	understanding of an organization.	18	yourself well, if you put yourself in the	
19	Q. Could you understand why such a person	19	shoes of somebody who is on post-release	
20	might be uncertain or confused if they're	20	supervision who reads this, could you	
21	eligible to vote if they read this when they're	21	understand why such a person would think	
22	on post-release supervision?	22	they're eligible to vote, because neither	
23	A. I don't believe I can answer your	23	parole nor post-release supervision is	
24	question. I'm sorry.	24	mentioned here?	
25	Q. Okay. I'm going to turn back now to	25	MR. COX: Objection. Outside the scope	
23	Q. Oldy. I in going to turn buck now to	23	int. con objection. outbide the beope	
_	Page 91		Page 93	
1	the prior page, which is page 351.	1	of the notice of deposition.	
2	Ms. Bell, do you see in Section 10	2	Objection. Calls for speculation.	
3	here, which is the section that and I don't	3	If you are able to answer based upon	
4	know what the right word is the affirmation	4	your personal knowledge, you can.	
5	that a voter must sign, number 4 says: "I have	5	A. I can't I can't determine what someone would be able to understand or not	
6	not been convicted of a felony, or if I have	7		
7	been convicted of a felony" (inaudible).	8	understand.	
8	THE REPORTER: We're not hearing you. BY MR. JACOBSON:		Q. Ms. Bell, as the executive director of	
9		9	the State Board of Elections, you have	
10	Q. Do you not hear me?	10	authority over the contents of these forms, right?	
11 12	A. No. I was about to say, "Did you say something more?"	12	A. Yes.	
13	Q. I could see everyone making gestures.	13	Q. Do you think it would be advisable for	
14	A. I was reading the note, looked up, and	14	the State Board of Elections to clarify on here	
15	I was, like, I think you're talking, but I	15	that it applies to people on post-release	
16	don't hear your voice.	16	supervision?	
17	Q. Yeah. I was, like, did I just say	17	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	
18	something super offensive? Everyone is	18	A. Do I think it would be advisable for	
19	starting to gesture.	19	the form to be altered? Is that what you're	
20	Can you hear me?	20	asking?	
21	A. Yes. All I heard was "number 4," so	21	0. Correct.	
22	Q. Okay. So, Ms. Bell, do you see on	22	A. I don't if it's advisable, who is	
23	number 4 here it says so let me ask you	23	providing the advice?	
24	this: You said a moment ago that in your mind	24	Q. Well, you're in charge of the State	
25	parole might be synonymous with post-release	25	Board of Elections, right?	
1			-, 3	

)(0) Ruren Brinson 1		1 uges 7477
1	Page 94 A. Yes.	1	Page 96 of people to apply for absentee ballots in this
2	O. As the executive director of the State	2	year's November elections?
3	Board of Elections, do you think this form	3	A. Yes. That's correct.
4	should be altered to include post-release	4	Q. Potentially, millions of people?
5	supervision?	5	A. I would have to do the math on that.
6	A. Before we change any forms, I actually	6	Q. Okay.
7	prefer to consult with our general counsel to	7	A. I hope it's not that much.
8	ensure that we're in compliance with the laws.	8	Q. We can agree
9	And we are also in the process of updating many	9	A. Well, I shouldn't say I hope. We're
10	of our forms to be more user-friendly. But	10	yeah, we're expecting a 30 to 40 percent
11	that that extends beyond the question that	11	possible participation.
12	you're asking me.	12	Q. It's going to be a lot of people,
13	Q. Okay. I'll move on.	13	correct?
14	I'm going to pull up now what's been	14	A. Yes. Exactly.
15	marked as Exhibit F.	15	Q. Okay. I'm going to direct your
16	(Plaintiffs' F premarked.)	16	attention to the "Voter's Certification"
17	BY MR. JACOBSON:	17	section on the left side of this form. Do you
18	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this	18	see that?
19	document?	19	A. I do.
20	A. I do.	20	Q. And do you see that it says right here
21	Q. And I should have said, this is a	21	in the final sentence of that first paragraph:
22	document that's titled Absentee Application and	22	"I have not been convicted of a felony, or if I
23	Certificate; is that right?	23	have been convicted of a felony, I have
24	A. That's correct.	24	completed my sentence, including any probation
25	Q. Can you confirm, to the best of your	25	or parole"?
1	Page 95	1	Page 97
1	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate	1 2	A. I do see that.
2	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board	2	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention
2 3	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery?	2 3	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct?
2 3 4	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not	2 3 4	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct.
2 3 4 5	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence.	2 3 4 5	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here
2 3 4 5 6	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we	2 3 4 5 6	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to
2 3 4 5 6 7	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that	2 3 4 5 6 7	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form. Q. When was the form updated since then? A. We are currently updating due to a change in the law and the number of witnesses because of coronavirus. Q. Okay. And is that the only change that you expect to make to this form currently?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I would have to look at the new proof to determine whether the language has been changed or not. I don't know off the top of my head.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form. Q. When was the form updated since then? A. We are currently updating due to a change in the law and the number of witnesses because of coronavirus. Q. Okay. And is that the only change that you expect to make to this form currently? A. We have actually redesigned it to make it it's one of the forms I was meaning when	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I would have to look at the new proof to determine whether the language has been changed or not. I don't know off the top of my head. Q. Okay. I'm going to skip ahead now and pull up what's been marked as Exhibit H.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form. Q. When was the form updated since then? A. We are currently updating due to a change in the law and the number of witnesses because of coronavirus. Q. Okay. And is that the only change that you expect to make to this form currently? A. We have actually redesigned it to make it it's one of the forms I was meaning when I said we were trying to develop a more	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I would have to look at the new proof to determine whether the language has been changed or not. I don't know off the top of my head. Q. Okay. I'm going to skip ahead now and pull up what's been marked as Exhibit H. (Plaintiffs' H premarked.)
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form. Q. When was the form updated since then? A. We are currently updating due to a change in the law and the number of witnesses because of coronavirus. Q. Okay. And is that the only change that you expect to make to this form currently? A. We have actually redesigned it to make it it's one of the forms I was meaning when I said we were trying to develop a more user-friendly format.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I would have to look at the new proof to determine whether the language has been changed or not. I don't know off the top of my head. Q. Okay. I'm going to skip ahead now and pull up what's been marked as Exhibit H. (Plaintiffs' H premarked.) MR. COX: And, Dan, one thing that
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	knowledge, that this is a true and accurate copy of a document that the State Board produced this discovery? MR. COX: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. A. I can't see an indication there we go. I do see a notation at the bottom that does appear to have been provided. Q. And, Ms. Bell, is this the State Board of Elections form for voters to apply for an absentee ballot? A. This is a prior iteration of the form. Q. When was the form updated since then? A. We are currently updating due to a change in the law and the number of witnesses because of coronavirus. Q. Okay. And is that the only change that you expect to make to this form currently? A. We have actually redesigned it to make it it's one of the forms I was meaning when I said we were trying to develop a more user-friendly format. Q. Okay. Understood.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. I do see that. Q. Again, that does not mention post-release supervision, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And to the best as you sit here today, the Board currently does not intend to change this language on this form, does it? A. Actually, I don't recall whether that's been changed. Q. You're not aware of any intent to change this form currently to include post-release supervision, are you? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I would have to look at the new proof to determine whether the language has been changed or not. I don't know off the top of my head. Q. Okay. I'm going to skip ahead now and pull up what's been marked as Exhibit H. (Plaintiffs' H premarked.) MR. COX: And, Dan, one thing that could be helpful to me is if you list the

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1	Page 98	_	Page 100
1	MR. JACOBSON: Sure.	1	A. It is stated as that, yes.
2	BY MR. JACOBSON:	2	Q. Okay. I'm going to turn now to two
3	Q. Exhibit H is a document that starts on	3	pages later. So Bates stamp page 558. And
4	Bates stamp 537.	4	I'll give you a moment to read this, Ms. Bell.
5	Do you see that, Ms. Bell?	5	A. (Reviewing.)
6	A. Actually, I don't see the number, but I	6	Q. Do you see here that it says that a
7	do see the I would have to move everything	7	poll worker must review certain eligibility
8	off of zoom.	8	statements with the voter, with the final one
9	Q. Okay. Don't worry.	9	being: "Have not been convicted of a felony,
10	A. Okay. Thank you.	10	or if they have been convicted of a felony,
11	Q. I'll just state for the record, it	11	they have completed their sentence, including
12	starts on page 537.	12	any probation or parole"?
13	A. Thank you.	13	A. I do see that.
14	Q. And I'll try to make sure to do that	14	Q. And, again, it just says probation or
15	for future ones, but if I don't, just remind	15	parole without mentioning post-release
16	me.	16	supervision, right?
17	A. Okay.	17	A. Correct.
18	Q. Ms. Bell, this is a document titled	18	Q. Would you concede that this may confuse
19	"Voting Site Station Guide"; is that right?	19	a poll worker as to whether a person is on
20	A. That's correct.	20	post-release supervision or eligible to vote?
21	Q. And have you seen this document before?	21	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
22	A. Yes.	22	speculation.
23	Q. And can you confirm, to the best of	23	A. As I've stated, I don't think I can
24	your knowledge, that this is a true and	24	attest to someone's confusion or clarity.
25	accurate copy of a document that the State	25	Q. Let's say, hypothetically, a person who
			2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1	Page 99	1	Page 101
	Board produced in discovery in this case?		is on post-release supervision shows up to the
2	A. It does appear to be, yes.	2	polls and asks the poll worker, "I've finished
3	Q. Okay. And, Ms. Bell, is this a guide	3	serving my prison sentence, but I'm on
4	that's developed by the State Board that's	4	post-release supervision. Can I vote?" The
5	given to poll workers in every polling place in	5	poll worker might consult this document and say
6	North Carolina?	6	"Yes," right?
7	A. That's correct.	7	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
8	Q. It indicates here on the cover page	8	speculation.
9	that it was last updated in 2020, right?	9	A. The poll worker could consult this
10	A. Yes.	10	document. That's correct.
11	Q. Okay. I'm going to turn now to what's	11	Q. And the poll worker might say, "Yes,
12	been marked as or not what's been marked	12	you're eligible to vote," because it doesn't
13	to Bates stamp page 557. I can't see my own	13	mention anything about post-release
14	A. You're having the same problem I was.	14	supervision, right?
115		15	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
15	Q. Yeah. It's on the right side of the	12	-
16	screen.	16	speculation.
	screen. A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video.		
16	screen.	16	speculation.
16 17	screen. A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video.	16 17	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no.
16 17 18	screen. A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay.	16 17 18	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's
16 17 18 19	A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this page	16 17 18 19	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's been marked as Exhibit I.
16 17 18 19 20	A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this page this slide is titled "Step 6: Determination of	16 17 18 19 20	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's been marked as Exhibit I. (Plaintiffs' I premarked.)
16 17 18 19 20 21	Screen. A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this page this slide is titled "Step 6: Determination of Voter Eligibility and Voting Authorization"?	16 17 18 19 20 21	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's been marked as Exhibit I. (Plaintiffs' I premarked.) MR. JACOBSON: And, Paul, and others,
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Screen. A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this page this slide is titled "Step 6: Determination of Voter Eligibility and Voting Authorization"? A. Yes.	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's been marked as Exhibit I. (Plaintiffs' I premarked.) MR. JACOBSON: And, Paul, and others, this is one where the file is so large, I
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. Yeah, underneath everyone's video. Q. One more page. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you see that this page this slide is titled "Step 6: Determination of Voter Eligibility and Voting Authorization"? A. Yes. Q. Is this the final step for a poll	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	speculation. A. They may say yes or they may say no. Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's been marked as Exhibit I. (Plaintiffs' I premarked.) MR. JACOBSON: And, Paul, and others, this is one where the file is so large, I think that it might be that Daryl is not

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1	Page 102	1	Page 104
2	everyone. And if we don't get it, we could	1	Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is currently on
	use our FTP file transfer or something like	2	post-release supervision, and they're asked
3	that. Is that okay?	3	this question, they would truthfully answer
4	MR. COX: Okay. Is it a document	-	"no," right?
5	produced in discovery?	5	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
6	MR. JACOBSON: Correct.	6	speculation.
7	MR. COX: Okay.	7	A. I do not know.
8	MR. JACOBSON: And I should say, along	8	Q. If I represent to you or if I ask you
9	those lines, that this document starts at	9	to assume for purposes of this question that
10	Bates stamp number 132.	10	post-release supervision is different from
11	BY MR. JACOBSON:	11	probation and different from parole, wouldn't
12	Q. Ms. Bell, this document doesn't have a	12	the truthful answer to this question for
13	title to it, but do you recognize this	13	somebody who is on post-release supervision be
14	document?	14	"no"?
15	A. I believe I do. Yes.	15	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
16	Q. And can you confirm, to the best of	16	speculation.
17	your ability, that this is a true and accurate	17	A. I think we determined earlier, I have
18	copy of a document produced by the State Board	18	an association of parole as being
19	in discovery in this case?	19	post-sentencing supervision. I don't know if
20	A. I believe so, yes.	20	that would be the case for an individual
21	Q. And am I correct that this is a	21	answering this question. They may have the
22	pardon me this is a manual that's given to	22	same understanding or assumption.
23	local election officials and poll workers? Is	23	Q. Okay. So it sounds like we agree,
24	that right?	24	though, that it's possible a person on
25	A. It is made available to the county	25	post-release supervision could answer this
	Page 103		Page 105
1	board of elections to provide, yes.	1	question "no"?
2	Q. And this is developed by the State	2	MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the
3	Board of Elections?	3	testimony.
4	A. That's correct.	4	A. A person could answer "yes" or "no."
5	Q. Okay. I'm going to go now to Bates	5	Q. But it would be reasonable for a person
6	stamp page 256.	6	to answer "no" who is on post-release
7	Ms. Bell, my understanding is that this	7	supervision?
8	page shows the script that a poll worker is supposed to read from if a voter's eligibility	8	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
9		9	speculation. Vague.
10	to vote is challenged at the polling place. Is	10	A. They can answer "yes" or "no" depending on their understanding.
11	that right?	11 12	5
12	A. Would you scroll just a little bit so I can see what's above the	13	Q. Okay. If somebody who is on post-release supervision did answer this
14		14	question "no," they would be allowed to vote,
15	Q. Sure. Do you want me to go on to the prior page?	15	right, by the poll worker?
16	A. Thank you. Yes. That does help.	16	MR. COX: Objection. Incomplete
17	Okay. Then, yes, this is the script	17	hypothetical.
18	for a challenge.	18	A. If an individual if any individual
19	Q. Okay. And if we look at the fourth	19	answers "no" to this question, then they would
20	bullet here, it says that the poll worker is	20	be allowed to vote.
1 20	supposed to ask the voter: "Are you currently	21	Q. So if a person who is on post-release
21		22	supervision answered "no," they would be
	on probation or parole for a felony	22 23	supervision answered "no," they would be allowed to vote?
21 22			
21 22 23	on probation or parole for a felony conviction?"	23	allowed to vote?

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1	Page 106 prosecuted for the crime of illegally voting,	1	Page 108
2	right?	2	restitution, you do not have to do anything to have your citizenship right restored"?
3	A. If someone who has not completed their	3	A. That is how it reads, yes.
4	felony, votes, then they could be prosecuted,	4	Q. Okay. And so, once again, this says
5	correct.	5	"including probation or parole." It doesn't
6	Q. Okay.	6	mention post-release supervision, correct?
7	MR. COX: Dan, do you want to take a	7	A. That's correct.
8	quick break?	8	Q. And this one, unlike the other ones we
9	THE WITNESS: I was about to ask. If	9	looked at, also mentions restitution, right?
10	you think we're wrapping up on some of this	10	A. It does.
11	soon, then I can keep going. But if not,	11	O. None of the other documents we looked
12	I'd like to take a break.	12	at before mention restitution?
13	MR. JACOBSON: Paul, I've got maybe, I	13	MR. COX: Objection.
14	would say, about two more minutes of	14	A. Not that I recall.
15	questions on this module. Can we get	15	Q. Ms. Bell, are you aware that
16	through that and then take a break?	16	individuals convicted of felonies in
17	MR. COX: Sure. Sure.	17	North Carolina are often required to pay fees
18	MR. JACOBSON: Okay.	18	for court costs that are different from
19	THE WITNESS: My Apple watch is telling	19	restitution?
20	me to stand.	20	MR. COX: Okay. Calls for a legal
21	BY MR. JACOBSON:	21	conclusion.
22	Q. I'll skip ahead one exhibit to	22	Objection. Speculation.
23	Exhibit K. And this is a document that starts	23	A. Could you state your question again,
24	with Bates stamp number 303.	24	please?
25	(Plaintiffs' K premarked.)	25	Q. Sure. Are you aware that individuals
1	Page 107		Page 109
	BY MR. JACOBSON:	1 1	convicted of felonies in North Carolina are
2	BY MR. JACOBSON: O. Ms. Bell. do you recognize this	1 2	convicted of felonies in North Carolina are
2 3	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this	2	often required to pay fees for court costs that
2 3 4		2 3	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution?
3	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do.	2	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal
3 4	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do. Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is	2 3 4	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. Calls for speculation.
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3 4 5 6 7	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do. Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case?	2 3 4 5 6 7	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. Calls for speculation. A. I actually I'm not I'm not clear on that matter. I actually personally
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3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do. Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. I believe it is. Yes. Q. And this is a document that's produced by the State Board of Elections, right, looking at the top right corner here? A. It was yes, it has been produced at a point in time by the State Board, yes. Q. And am I correct that this is a document that's made specifically for individuals convicted of felonies to inform them about their voting rights? A. That's correct. Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention now to the second page of this document and the top right column, the part that's been	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. Calls for speculation. A. I actually I'm not I'm not clear on that matter. I actually personally associate restitution and fees and so forth as being of the same language. I don't know the distinction there. Q. Okay. So a person who has paid back their restitution, but still owes other fees from their court case, who reads this, they might think they're eligible to vote, right, because it only mentions restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation and outside the scope of the notice. A. I don't know what someone else's understanding would be. Obviously, I don't have a clear understanding.
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do. Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. I believe it is. Yes. Q. And this is a document that's produced by the State Board of Elections, right, looking at the top right corner here? A. It was yes, it has been produced at a point in time by the State Board, yes. Q. And am I correct that this is a document that's made specifically for individuals convicted of felonies to inform them about their voting rights? A. That's correct. Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention now to the second page of this document and the top right column, the part that's been highlighted.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. Calls for speculation. A. I actually I'm not I'm not clear on that matter. I actually personally associate restitution and fees and so forth as being of the same language. I don't know the distinction there. Q. Okay. So a person who has paid back their restitution, but still owes other fees from their court case, who reads this, they might think they're eligible to vote, right, because it only mentions restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation and outside the scope of the notice. A. I don't know what someone else's understanding would be. Obviously, I don't have a clear understanding. MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Should we take a
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this document? A. I do. Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is this a document produced by the State Board in discovery in this case? A. I believe it is. Yes. Q. And this is a document that's produced by the State Board of Elections, right, looking at the top right corner here? A. It was yes, it has been produced at a point in time by the State Board, yes. Q. And am I correct that this is a document that's made specifically for individuals convicted of felonies to inform them about their voting rights? A. That's correct. Q. Okay. I'm going to turn your attention now to the second page of this document and the top right column, the part that's been highlighted. Do you see the sentence that reads:	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	often required to pay fees for court costs that are different from restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion. Calls for speculation. A. I actually I'm not I'm not clear on that matter. I actually personally associate restitution and fees and so forth as being of the same language. I don't know the distinction there. Q. Okay. So a person who has paid back their restitution, but still owes other fees from their court case, who reads this, they might think they're eligible to vote, right, because it only mentions restitution? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation and outside the scope of the notice. A. I don't know what someone else's understanding would be. Obviously, I don't have a clear understanding. MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Should we take a break?

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	Page 110		Page 112
1	or ten minutes?	1	Q. I'll go back now to what's been marked
2	THE WITNESS: Can we do ten minutes?	2	as Exhibit G. And this is a document that
3	MR. JACOBSON: Sure. So we'll come	3	starts at Bates stamp number 405.
4	back at 11:26.	4	Ms. Bell, do you recognize this
5	THE WITNESS: Sounds fine. Thank you.	5	document?
6	(Recess from 11:16 to 11:28 a.m.)	6	A. I do.
7	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. So, Ms. Bell, are	7	Q. And is to the best of your
8	you ready to go back on the record?	8	knowledge, is this a document produced by the
9	THE WITNESS: I am.	9	State Board in discovery?
10	MR. JACOBSON: Court reporter, are you	10	A. I believe so, yes.
11	all set?	11	Q. And is this One Stop Application that
12	THE REPORTER: Yes, sir. Thank you.	12	voters fill out when they want to vote what
13	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. All right.	13	I think of as early voting?
14	THE WITNESS: Dan, before we go back	14	A. Yes, it is part of our One Stop early
15	into questions, can we just amend the	15	voting. It serves as the poll book document
16	record, or whatever the right phrase would	16	for that.
17	be?	17	Q. And in section A here, the final thing
18	I did confirm during the break that we	18	that voters have to certify, it says: "I have
19	took that we have amended or requested to	19	not been convicted of a felony, or if I have
20	be amended, in the new versions of our	20	been convicted of a felony, I have completed my
21	absentee by mail envelope and voter	21	sentence, including any probation or parole."
22	registration form, to include it does	22	Is that right?
23	say probation, parole, and	23	A. That is what it states. Yes.
24	post-sentencing	24	Q. And are you aware of any present
25	MR. JACOBSON: Post-release	25	efforts to update this form to include
	Page 111		Page 113
1	supervision?	1	post-release supervision?
2	THE WITNESS: Thank you. Sorry. I am	2	A. I do not know whether this is I
3	stumbling over that, because I have in	3	don't know if this one is being revised, but I
4	real estate, it's post-licensing. So all	4	can check and correct the record if need be.
5	of these things begin to run together.	5	Q. Okay. And we spoke earlier about I
6	But, yes, post what is the phrase? I'm	6	can't remember the exact name, but a voting
7	sorry.	7	guide that's provided to coworkers. Is that
8	MR. JACOBSON: Post-release	8	right?
9	supervision.	9	A. Yes.
10	THE WITNESS: Post-release, yeah,	10	Q. And that voting guide did not mention
11	supervision. Thank you.	11	post-release supervision, right?
12	BY MR. JACOBSON:	12	A. I believe that's correct. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. So let me clarify that. Which	13	Q. And are you aware of any current
14	forms did you say are being amended?	14	modifications being made to that guide to
15	A. The new iterations of our voter	15	include post-release supervision?
16	registration forms. And you showed the old	16	A. We are not scheduled to do revisions to
17	version of our absentee by mail envelope that I	17	that, but that does not mean that we would not.
18	indicated we had a new version. That's in the	18	Q. Okay.
19	process now, and that's been updated with that	19	A. These other things had to be sent to
20	phrase.	20	printers and so forth, so they are first in the
21	Q. Okay. Is the One Stop form being	21	order.
22	updated as well; do you know?	22	Q. And we looked at this document a moment
23	I'll just show you.	23	ago titled you know, a document that's put
24	(Plaintiffs' G premarked.)	24	out or has been put out by the State Board of
25	BY MR. JACOBSON:	25	Elections, you know, to inform individuals

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1	Page 114	1	Page 116
1 2	convicted of felonies of (inaudible)? A. I should state that this is actually an	1 2	very first sentence of this document says: "When you are convicted of a felony in North
3	older brochure. We have a flyer that we have	3	Carolina, you cannot register" sorry "you
4	been working to substitute. I do know that	4	cannot vote or register to vote until you have
	there are actually more current versions of		
5	this even this brochure, because this does	5 6	completed all the terms of your felony
			sentence, including any probation or parole."
7 8	not have our correct website address, and there are versions that do have the correct website	7 8	Do you see that? A. I do.
9	address.	9	
			Q. And that does not mention post-release
10	Q. I will pull up what's been marked as	10	supervision, right?
11	Exhibit J, which I think might be the current	11	A. It does not.
12	version. It's one of the documents	12	Q. Okay. And if we scroll down to the
13	(inaudible).	13	fourth row here titled "Am I eligible to vote."
14	MR. COX: Sorry, Dan. You trailed off	14	Do you see that row?
15	there.	15	A. I do. Yes.
16	MR. JACOBSON: All right. I'm pulling	16	Q. And do you see that it says: "You must
17	up what's been marked as Exhibit J, which	17	not be serving an active felony sentence,
18	is one of the documents I skipped earlier.	18	including any probation or parole"?
19	(Plaintiffs' J premarked.)	19	A. That's correct. That is what it
20	BY MR. JACOBSON:	20	states.
21	Q. Ms. Bell, do you recognize this	21	Q. And it does not mention post-release
22	document?	22	supervision?
23	A. Could you make more of the page	23	A. It does not.
24	visible? Reduce?	24	Q. And I think you said a moment ago,
25	Q. Sure.	25	you're planning on putting this document into
	Page 115		Page 117
1	A. Thank you.	1	circulation or you've sort of started that
2	Yes, that is the flyer that was	2	process?
3	designed and is being substituted for that	3	A. It has been introduced.
4	brochure.	4	Q. Okay.
5	Q. And to the best of your knowledge, is	5	A. It's just a matter of getting
6	this a document that was produced a true and	6	everything updated.
7	accurate copy of a document produced by the	7	Q. And you're not aware of any current
8	State Board in discovery?	8	intentions to modify this document, are you?
9	A. Yes, I believe so.	9	A. It is not scheduled, to my knowledge,
10	Q. And I think you just said this, but is	10	no.
11	this the more current version of the document	11	Q. Okay. So I'll switch gears now.
12	that the State Board makes available to	12	Ms. Bell, beyond the documents that we
13	individuals convicted of felonies to notify	13	just looked at, just now and before the break,
14	them of their voting rights?	14	beyond those documents, isn't it the case that
15	A. Yes, it is intended that this would be	15	the information provided to felons about their
16	introduced into the system over the brochure.	16	voting rights is not standard and often
17	Q. Okay. And if we go and so this	17	excludes references to loss of voting rights?
18	document is intended specifically for people	18	MR. COX: Objection. Assume facts not
19	convicted of felonies as sort of an educational	19	in evidence. Calls for speculation.
20	document? Do I have that right?	20	A. Actually, would you restate your
21	A. It would serve for someone convicted of	21	question or ask it again, please?
22	a felony. Or if someone is not, and is serving	22	Q. Sure. Isn't it the case that the
23	a misdemeanor, it would clarify for them as	23	information provided to felons about their
24	well.	24	voting rights is not standard and often
25	Q. Okay. Fair enough. So do you see the	25	excludes references to the loss of voting

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	Page 118		Page 120
1	rights?	1	A. Uh-huh.
2	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	2	Q and the director of the
3	speculation.	3	Administrative Office of the Courts?
4	A. Actually, I do think that's a rather	4	A. I believe you asked if it was from
5	broad statement. I can only indicate what is	5	Kim Westbrook Strach to Secretary Hooks and
6	done in elections.	6	Administrative Officer Warren? You cut out, so
7	Q. So do you disagree with that statement?	7	I was just clarifying.
8	A. I neither agree or disagree. I	8	Q. Yes. Is that what this is?
9	don't I can't speak for what other entities	9	A. Yes, it is.
10	might provide to felons.	10	Q. And Kim Strach is your predecessor as
11	Q. Okay. Isn't it the case that when	11	executive director of the State Board of
12	registered to vote, or actually voting, not all	12	Elections; is that right?
13	voters read the language that we looked at	13	A. You cut out again, but I believe you
14	earlier requiring them to affirm that they are	14	asked if she was my predecessor. Yes, she is
15	not serving a felony sentence?	15	my predecessor.
16	A. We provide the information to any	16	Q. Okay. She was the previous executive
17	voter, and it is up to that individual whether	17	director of the State Board of Elections?
18	they read all the material or not.	18	A. That's correct.
19	Q. So I'll just ask it one more time.	19	Q. Are you able to hear me? Is this
20	Isn't it the case that when registering	20	better?
21	to vote or actually voting, not all voters read	21	A. Yes.
22	the language requiring them to affirm that they	22	Q. Okay. For the record, I last a
23	are not serving a felony sentence?	23	couple days ago, I went to four different
24	A. I can't determine if an individual or	24	stores in DC to try to buy a microphone to fix
25	all individuals read all of the information.	25	these issues, and they were all sold out
	Page 119		Page 121
1	Q. Okay. I'm going to pull up now what's	1	because, apparently, everyone in the world is
2	been marked as Exhibit Q.	2	trying to buy microphones for their computer.
3	(Plaintiffs' Q premarked.)	3	So just for the record, efforts were made to
4	BY MR. JACOBSON:	4	address the situation.
5	Q. And this is not a document produced in	5	A. Understood.
6	discovery, but it's a document of the State	6	Q. But I apologize.
7	Board of Elections that's just available from	7	So the subject line of this letter is
8	other sources. And I'll zoom out to try to let	8	"Uniform notice to felons regarding voting
9	you see it, Ms. Bell.	9	rights in North Carolina." Correct?
10	MR. COX: Dan, just for the record, I	10	A. Correct.
11	believe that document was provided in	11	Q. Ms. Bell, can I ask you to read the
12	discovery. It's an attachment to the audit	12	second paragraph of this letter, the one that
13	report for 2017.	13	starts with the word "Beyond," into the record?
14	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Fair enough. We	14	A. Read aloud or read it
15	will fair enough.	15	Q. Read it aloud, please.
16	THE WITNESS: It's appendix 7 of that	16	A. Okay. The paragraph that begins with
17	document.	17	"Beyond"?
18	MR. JACOBSON: Okay.	18	Q. Correct.
19	BY MR. JACOBSON:	19	A. Okay. "Beyond the promising future in
20	Q. So, Ms. Bell, have you seen this	20	our data-sharing relationship, I want to make
21	document before?	21	sure you are aware that the State Board's
22	A. I have.	22	in-house investigations staff have become aware
23	Q. And is this a letter from Kim Westbrook	23	that the information provided to felons serving
24	Strach to the secretary of the Department of	24	active sentences does not appear to be standard
25	Public Safety	25	and often excludes references to the loss of

	(6) Karen Brinson E		on 07/16/2020 Pages 122125
	Page 122		Page 124
1	voting rights. This issue arises at the	1	Q. Okay. Can you tell me how that's
2	referral phase of our investigations, when some	2	wrong?
3	district attorneys express understandable	3	A. This a letter written in 2017 cannot
4	concern that a felon who has voted may not have	4	assert what the status is from '17 until 2020.
5	been aware of the unlawfulness of his actions.	5	Q. Okay. So as of 2017, at least, the
6	Although individuals are required to affirm	6	State Board of Elections was of the opinion
7	that they are not serving an active felony	7	that the information provided to voters to
8	sentence, both when registering and presenting	8	felons serving active sentences does not appear
9	to vote, we have received feedback that not all	9	to be standard and often excludes references to
10	voters read this language prior to signing.	10	the loss of voting rights?
11	Establishing that the subject of an	11	A. That is what this states. Correct.
12	investigation may have knowingly and willingly	12	Q. Okay. And as of 2017, the State Board
13	violated North Carolina election laws	13	of Elections determined that although
14	prohibiting felons from voting will support	14	individuals are required to affirm that they
15	successful prosecutions."	15	are not serving an active felony sentence, both
16	Q. And this letter, Ms. Bell, is from	16	when registering to vote and presenting to
17	2017; is that right?	17	vote, not all voters read this language prior
18	A. That's correct.	18	to signing?
19	Q. So based on what you just read, isn't	19	A. That is the feedback they had received
20	it the case that the State Board of Elections	20	at that time, yes.
21	has long known that the information provided to	21	Q. Okay. And does the State Board,
22	felons serving active sentences does not appear	22	sitting here today, in 2020, have any
23	to be standard and often excludes references to	23	information to change the conclusion reached in
24	loss of voting rights?	24	that sentence I just read?
25	MR. COX: You trailed out, Dan.	25	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
	Page 123		Page 125
1	THE WITNESS: Yeah.	1	Sorry, Dan. I just wanted to do you
2	BY MR. JACOBSON:	2	mind if I ask you to clarify which sentence
3	Q. Isn't it the case, Ms. Bell, that the	3	you're talking about.
4	State Board of Elections has long known that	1 4	
		4	THE WITNESS: Yeah. I was about to ask
5	the information provided to felons serving	5	THE WITNESS: Yeah. I was about to ask that. Which part were you talking about?
6	active sentences does not appear to be standard	5 6	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON:
6 7	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of	5 6 7	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although
6 7 8	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights?	5 6 7 8	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although individual voters are required to affirm," dah,
6 7 8 9	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights? MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the	5 6 7 8 9	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although individual voters are required to affirm," dah, dah, dah, dah, "we have received feedback that
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6 7 8 9 10 11	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights? MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the evidence. A. I don't think that this paragraph says	5 6 7 8 9 10	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although individual voters are required to affirm," dah, dah, dah, dah, "we have received feedback that not all voters read this language prior to signing."
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights? MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the evidence. A. I don't think that this paragraph says that it's long known or shortly known.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although individual voters are required to affirm," dah, dah, dah, dah, "we have received feedback that not all voters read this language prior to signing." That was the sentence written by the
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights? MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the evidence. A. I don't think that this paragraph says that it's long known or shortly known. Q. Okay. So this letter was written in 2017? A. That's correct. Q. So since, at least, 2017, the State Board of Elections has known that the information provided to felons serving active sentences does not appear to be standard and often excludes references to the loss of voting rights; is that right? MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the evidence.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	that. Which part were you talking about? BY MR. JACOBSON: Q. The sentence that read: "Although individual voters are required to affirm," dah, dah, dah, dah, "we have received feedback that not all voters read this language prior to signing." That was the sentence written by the State Board in 2017, right? A. Correct. Q. Does the State Board, sitting here today in 2020, have any new information that would alter this conclusion? A. The conclusion that not all voters read this language prior to signing? Q. Correct. A. I don't believe we have any new information to that effect or against that. Q. And how about the prior sentence, that

Page 126 Page 128 A. You faded out. become aware that the information provided to 1 Q. This document starts at Bates stamp felons serving active sentences does not appear 2 3 to be standard and often excludes references to 3 page 406? the loss of voting rights? 4 4 A. Yes. 5 That was what they wrote as of 2017, 5 Q. Okay. And I'm going to turn now to 6 right? 6 409. Do you see here the sentence I'm hovering 7 over that says: "Under state law, felon voting A. Correct. 7 8 Q. Sitting here today in 2020, does the 8 is a strict liability offense, and thus a felon 9 State Board have any new information that would 9 may be convicted of a crime even if he or she 10 alter this conclusion? 10 does not know that voting while serving an 11 A. I believe we have information that 11 active sentence is wrong"? Do you see that? 12 would say that there do appear to be standards 12 A. I do. 13 that have been implemented since this time. 13 Q. And so you understand that to mean that 14 Q. And we just discussed, Ms. Bell, that 14 a person can be convicted of this crime even if 15 some of your forms are being updated to include 15 he or she did not know that they were 16 the reference to post-release supervision, but 16 ineligible to vote when they voted? 17 some are not; is that correct? 17 A. I do see that. I did not recall when 18 A. That's correct. 18 you asked the previous question. 19 Q. So, at least, as to that issue, the 19 Q. Sure. But that's -- you understand 20 information provided is not standard? 20 that that's what the current law provides? 21 MR. COX: Objection. Argumentative. 21 A. Yes. 22 A. I don't believe that the question of 22 Q. Okay. And this same paragraph says standard, given that this is being written to that the State Board refers suspected cases of 23 23 Secretary Hooks and Judge Warren, I don't 24 voting by persons who are serving felony believe that the State Board is questioning the 25 sentences to local district attorneys for Page 127 Page 129 uniformity of State Board documents. I think potential prosecution; is that right? 1 2 they're questioning the uniformity of documents 2 A. That's correct. 3 that would be DPS and AOC. 3 Q. And is that something the State Board still does, refer people who are suspected of 4 Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you understand that 4 5 under the current law, if a person votes while 5 illegally voting with felony sentences to the 6 on felony probation or post-release 6 local prosecutors? 7 7 supervision, that's a crime for which a person A. That would be the process, yes. 8 can face up to two years in prison? 8 Q. Okay. And does the State Board refer 9 A. That is my understanding, yes. 9 everyone who it believes may have voted 10 10 Q. And do you understand this is what's illegally while serving a felony sentence to 11 known as a strict liability crime, meaning that 11 local prosecutors, or does it use any sort of 12 it does not matter whether or not the person 12 discretion in deciding who to refer? 13 A. We actually have developed a policy 13 knew he was ineligible to vote to be convicted? 14 A. Actually, I don't know it by that 14 about our priority areas and how we determine 15 terminology. 15 investigations. 16 Q. Okay. And I'm going to go back now to 16 Q. Okay. And how does the State Board --17 what was Exhibit C, which was the Post Election 17 scratch that. 18 18 Audit. Ms. Bell, are you aware that local 19 And I'm going to -- well, I should say, 19 prosecutors have, in fact, prosecuted people in 20 at the top, Ms. Bell, this is one of the 20 recent years for voting while on probation or 21 21 documents we looked at earlier titled post-release supervision? 22 "Post-Election Audit Report"; is that right? 22 A. Yes, I am aware that such prosecutions have taken place. 23 23 A. It is, yes. 24 Q. Okay. And this is a document that 24 Q. Are you familiar with the so-called starts at Bates stamp page 406? 25 Alamance 12?

	, (-)		
1	Page 130 A. I am.	1	Page 132 the Huffington Post.
2	Q. And so that you're aware that 12 people	2	(Plaintiffs' D premarked.)
3	in Alamance County were criminally prosecuted	3	BY MR. JACOBSON:
4	for voting in the 2016 general election while	4	Q. Do you see this on the screen?
5	they were serving probation or post-release	5	A. I do. I don't it's you can zoom
6	supervision?	6	out some, because I don't see "Huffington" or
7	A. That is my understanding of the case	7	anything to identify that. But, yes.
8	or the the reference.	8	Q. Sure. Do you see here in the top right
9	Q. Are you aware that 9 of those 12 people	9	corner it says "HuffPost"?
10	are African American?	10	A. Yes, I do.
11	A. I believe I have some knowledge of	11	Q. And so this is an article written by a
12	that, yes.	12	journalist named Sam Levine dated August 13,
13	Q. And are you aware that most or maybe	13	2018, titled "They Didn't Know They Were
14	even all of those 12 people said that they did	14	Ineligible to Vote. A Prosecutor Went After
15	not know that they were ineligible to vote?	15	Them Anyway." Do you see that?
16	A. That is my recollection from these	16	A. I do.
17	articles, yes.	17	Q. Okay. I'm going to scroll down now to
18	Q. Okay. And are you aware that the	18	the bottom five paragraphs of this article.
19	district attorney in Hoke County has prosecuted	19	And so starting with the paragraph that says:
20	four people referred by the State Board of	20	"The cases of the 12 voters." Do you see that?
21	Elections for allegedly voting before their	21	A. I do.
22	rights were restored?	22	Q. So I'm going to give you a moment to
23	A. I am familiar with that, yes.	23	read from there to the end of the story. And
24	Q. Are you aware that all four persons	24	just let me know whenever you're ready.
25	indicted in Hoke County are African American?	25	A. (Reviewing.) Okay.
		1	
	D 444		D 122
1	Page 131 A. I do believe I had that understanding.	1	Page 133 O. So. Ms. Bell. you see in those
1 2	A. I do believe I had that understanding,	1 2	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those
2	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes.	1 2 3	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that
2 3	A. I do believe I had that understanding,	2	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that individuals with felony convictions said they
2	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes. Q. You would agree that those prosecutions	2 3	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that
2 3 4	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes. Q. You would agree that those prosecutions in Alamance and Hoke County were very high	2 3 4	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that individuals with felony convictions said they wouldn't vote again because they were afraid of
2 3 4 5	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes. Q. You would agree that those prosecutions in Alamance and Hoke County were very high profile? Received a lot of media attention? A. I won't determine whether they're high	2 3 4 5	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that individuals with felony convictions said they wouldn't vote again because they were afraid of being prosecuted? Do you see that? A. I do.
2 3 4 5 6	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes. Q. You would agree that those prosecutions in Alamance and Hoke County were very high profile? Received a lot of media attention? A. I won't determine whether they're high profile, but they did receive media attention,	2 3 4 5 6	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that individuals with felony convictions said they wouldn't vote again because they were afraid of being prosecuted? Do you see that? A. I do. Q. And wouldn't you agree that that's a
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A. I do believe I had that understanding, yes. Q. You would agree that those prosecutions in Alamance and Hoke County were very high profile? Received a lot of media attention? A. I won't determine whether they're high profile, but they did receive media attention, yes. Q. Okay. They were "in the news," as we say?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Q. So, Ms. Bell, you see in those paragraphs there's quotes reflecting that individuals with felony convictions said they wouldn't vote again because they were afraid of being prosecuted? Do you see that? A. I do. Q. And wouldn't you agree that that's a reasonable fear given the potential of going to prison if you're prosecuted for mistakenly voting while ineligible?
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3 U(D)(0) Karen Brinson i	sen c	on 0//16/2020 Pages 13413/
1	Page 134		Page 136 the executive director of the State Board of
1 2	voting, for the reasons set forth in this article, would you tell that person that	1 2	Elections, do you have a general familiarity
3	they're being irrational?	3	with the reasons why voters may or may not
4	A. I would not tell any voter that they're	4	vote?
5	being irrational.	5	A. Are you is this a general question
6	Q. Would you tell that voter that you	6	to any to all voters or voters in general
7	think that their fears are unreasonable?	7	that may or may not vote?
8	A. Again, that's not how I would work with	8	O. Yeah.
9	any voter.	9	A. Yes, I think that falls within our
10	Q. Would you agree with me, Ms. Bell, that	10	capacity.
11	if individuals are uncertain or confused about	11	Q. And you have just, generally
12	their eligibility to vote with a felony	12	speaking, you have familiarity with the reasons
13	conviction, that could be a deterrent to them	13	why an individual may or may not register to
14	voting?	14	vote?
15	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. Calls for	15	A. Yes, we have a general familiarity with
16	speculation.	16	that.
17	A. Would you restate your question or	17	Q. And as a matter of based on that
18	state it again?	18	familiarity, in your role as the executive
19	Q. Sure. Would you agree that if an	19	director, wouldn't you agree that if a person
20	individual who has a felony conviction is	20	is unsure about whether they're lawfully
21	uncertain or confused about whether they're	21	allowed to vote, that may deter them from
22	eligible to vote, that may deter them from	22	voting?
23	voting?	23	A. Yeah, I think the way that I have to
24	A. I think the best answer I can give you	24	answer that question is that we we
25	is to not state one way or the other except to	25	facilitate voter registration as the State
	is to not source the may of the tener theory to		
1	Page 135 express my own personal experience as an	1	Page 137 Board of Elections and the county boards of
2	elections director.	2	elections. And we do so in a manner that we
3	I vividly recall from time to	3	continue to see individuals register to vote.
4	time one of the greatest experiences of my	4	We try to make that opportunity available in as
5	life as an elections administrator was the	5	many ways as possible, and we continue to have
6	trust that a gentleman instilled in me when he	6	registration. So it is not deterring people
7	finished his felony conviction, came into our	7	from registering to vote.
8	board of elections, was of the minority race in	8	Q. And is it your goal as the executive
9	the county where I worked, and yet trusted that	9	director of the Board of Elections to educate
10	I would help him in his application to	10	as many people as possible about their
11	reregister to vote. And even learned that he	11	eligibility to vote?
12	was still illiterate, and yet trusted that I	12	A. Yes, that is one of the goals I have
13	would help him through that process, and I did.	13	set as executive director of the State Board of
14	That's the best answer that I can give you to	14	Elections.
15	these questions, is that there have certainly	15	Q. And is one of the reasons you do that
16	been individuals who have entrusted in me to	16	is because you want to make sure, as much as
17	ensure that they became a registered individual	17	possible, that everyone who is eligible to vote
18	after completing their felony.	18	does vote, and everyone who is not eligible to
19	Q. As the executive director of the State	19	vote doesn't mistakenly vote? Fair?
20	Board of Elections, you're familiar with	20	A. Even in the mission statement that was
21	give me a moment. Let me make sure I can ask	21	in the county where I was a county director, we
22	this question in a way that, hopefully, will	22	had within that, and I still hold, that it is
23	not prompt your counsel to object. But I might	23	our job as an election administrator to ensure
24	be wrong about that no matter what.	24	everyone's fundamental right to vote.
25	In your capacity as the director, as	25	Q. And is one of the reasons why you try
1		1	

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1	Page 138 to educate everybody, as many people as	1	Page 140
2	possible, about their eligibility to vote is	2	Q. Are you aware that many states have such a regime?
3	because eliminating confusion promotes more	3	A. I'm aware that there are states with
4	voting?	4	such a regime.
5	MR. COX: Objection. Confusing.	5	O. And election officials in those states
6	Q. Would you agree with me that the less	6	implement those systems, right?
7	confused people are about their eligibility to	7	A. Just as we do as election
8	vote, the more likely they are to vote?	8	administrators, they administer as their law is
9	A. I don't know that there's a direct	9	written.
10	correlation there. We inform people about	10	
11	voting, about the voter registration processes.	11	Q. I'm going to show you now a few examples of the forms that election officials
12	There can be other influences that keep someone	12	in those states use to implement the type of
13	-	13	
14	from voting, including I mean, they may not	14	regime that plaintiffs are seeking.
	like any of the candidates, quite frankly.	15	A. Okay.
15	Q. Yeah. Okay. I'll move on, Ms. Bell.	16	(Plaintiffs' M premarked.) BY MR. JACOBSON:
16	Are you aware of the relief that		
17	plaintiffs are seeking in this case?	17	Q. I'm going to call up now what's been
18 19	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. I have read some of the court	18 19	marked as Exhibit M.
20			Ms. Bell, this is a voter registration
	documents. It might be best if you state to me	20	form used in Michigan. Do you see that?
21	what the relief is that plaintiffs seek.	21	A. I do see that, and the title implies
22	Q. Sure. So are you aware that plaintiffs	22	that, yes.
23	are seeking that plaintiffs are asking that	23	Q. I'll represent to you that to the best
24	people who are not incarcerated, but are on	24	of my knowledge this is Michigan's current
25	some form of community supervision, be allowed	25	version of their voter registration
	Page 139		Page 141
1	to vote?	1	application.
2	A. That is my understanding.	2	A. Okay.
3	Q. Okay. I'm going to refer, for the	3	Q. I'm going to point you to the left side
4	remainder of this deposition, to what I just	4	of this page, which says which is titled
5	described as the regime that plaintiffs seek in	5	"Criminal convictions and registering to vote."
6	this case. Is that fair?	6	Do you see that?
7	A. That's fine.	7	A. I do.
8	Q. I'll use that as shorthand just so I	8	Q. And do you see that it says: "If you
9	don't have to repeat that whole thing every	9	have a past criminal conviction and are no
10	time for all of my questions.	10	longer in jail or prison, you can register and
11	A. Understandable.	11	vote. You also can register and vote if you
12	Q. Okay.	12	are in jail and awaiting trial and sentencing.
13	MR. COX: Dan, could I ask a	13	If you are currently serving a sentence in jail
14	clarification question? Did you say the	14	or prison you can't register to vote."
15	"regime" that plaintiffs seek?	15	Do you see that?
16	MR. JACOBSON: Correct.	16	A. I do.
17	MR. COX: Okay.	17	Q. Ms. Bell, if the Court ruled for
18	BY MR. JACOBSON:	18	plaintiffs in this case, your office could
19	Q. Are you aware that at least 17 states,	19	change its form to say something like this,
20	plus the District of Columbia, have a regime	20	right?
21	like the one plaintiffs are seeking where	21	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
		22	speculation.
22	you're eligible to vote if you're not in		-
22 23	prison?	23	A. I think the best way for me to answer
22 23 24	prison? A. I have not researched to determine	23 24	A. I think the best way for me to answer is that when laws are changed, we do change the
22 23	prison?	23	A. I think the best way for me to answer

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1	Page 142 the same would be true if there were a court	1	Page 144 on a felony conviction"?
2	decision.	2	A. I do.
3	Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that the	3	Q. Would you agree that's pretty
4	three short sentences I just read are	4	straightforward and clear?
5	language is language that is used by	5	A. It is clear to me. I don't know
6	election officials in a state that had a regime	6	whether it's clear to everyone.
7	like the one plaintiffs are seeking?	7	Q. Okay. And then the last one I'll show
8	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	8	you here, I'm going to pull up, is Exhibit O.
9	speculation.	9	(Plaintiffs' O premarked.)
10	A. I will agree that you've indicated to	10	BY MR. JACOBSON:
11	me that the state of Michigan allows that this	11	Q. And this is a voter application or
12	is the regime that they allow for and,	12	voter registration form for New Jersey. Do you
13	therefore, they have provided this information	13	see that?
14	on their voter registration form.	14	A. I do.
15	Q. Okay. Fair enough. I'm going to pull	15	Q. And I'll represent to you that, to the
16	up now Exhibit N.	16	best of my knowledge, this is the current
17	(Plaintiffs' N premarked.)	17	version of New Jersey's voter registration
18	BY MR. JACOBSON:	18	application. Okay?
19	Q. And I will represent to you, Ms. Bell,	19	A. Okay.
20	that this is a voter the most recent copy of	20	Q. Ms. Bell, are you aware that New Jersey
21	the voter registration form used in the	21	changed its laws in December of 2019 so last
22	District of Columbia, where I live. Do you see	22	year from a system that was like the one
23	that?	23	that North Carolina currently uses to one
24	A. I do.	24	that's like plaintiffs seek in this case?
25	Q. And I will also represent to you that,	25	A. I actually did not recall that
	Page 143		Page 145
1	Page 143 at least as of last week I think they	1	Page 145 New Jersey had done that.
1 2	8	1 2	e
	at least as of last week I think they		New Jersey had done that.
2	at least as of last week I think they actually just voted to change it this week	2	New Jersey had done that. Q. Okay. So you're not aware and you've
2 3	at least as of last week I think they actually just voted to change it this week the District of Columbia has had a system like	2 3	New Jersey had done that. Q. Okay. So you're not aware and you've not heard of any problems that New Jersey
2 3 4	at least as of last week I think they actually just voted to change it this week the District of Columbia has had a system like the one plaintiffs a regime like the one	2 3 4	New Jersey had done that. Q. Okay. So you're not aware and you've not heard of any problems that New Jersey election officials have had in transitioning to
2 3 4 5	at least as of last week I think they actually just voted to change it this week the District of Columbia has had a system like the one plaintiffs a regime like the one plaintiffs seek in this case.	2 3 4 5	New Jersey had done that. Q. Okay. So you're not aware and you've not heard of any problems that New Jersey election officials have had in transitioning to such a regime, are you?
2 3 4 5 6	at least as of last week I think they actually just voted to change it this week the District of Columbia has had a system like the one plaintiffs a regime like the one plaintiffs seek in this case. Will you accept that representation?	2 3 4 5 6	New Jersey had done that. Q. Okay. So you're not aware and you've not heard of any problems that New Jersey election officials have had in transitioning to such a regime, are you? A. That has not been discussed with me.
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)(0) Karen Di insun 1		1 ages 140149
1	Page 146 plaintiffs in this case?	1	Page 148 Q. Okay. Sitting here today, however, you
2	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	2	can't give me a reason why the State Board of
3	speculation.	3	Elections wouldn't be able to change and
4	A. The method by which we change forms in	4	implement a change to its forms if the Court
5	North Carolina is based upon the law or the	5	said you had to implement a regime like the one
6	decision of the Court. And we would alter or	6	plaintiffs seek, right?
7	change our forms based upon the wording of the	7	A. Actually, depending on when that
8	law or the decision of the Court in	8	occurred, I might be able to give you reasons
9	North Carolina and not based upon another	9	why that could be difficult to implement or
10	state.	10	change, or feasible. There is nothing about
11	Q. Sure. But if the Court just using	11	this discussion that is in a vacuum or in a
12	these as examples if the Court said, "Yes	12	bubble.
13	we're going to implement the regime that	13	Q. Okay.
14	plaintiffs seek in this case," just from an	14	A. There are other court cases. There are
15	administrative perspective, you would be able	15	other deadlines. There are other variables
16	to administer that on your forms, correct?	16	that can impact our ability to implement
17	A. I would like you to state your question	17	anything in elections administration.
18	again. I'm sorry.	18	O. Okay. We talked earlier about how
19	Q. Sure. So, currently, your forms	19	you and by "you," I mean the State Board of
20	implements North Carolina's current law with	20	Elections receives data on an ongoing basis
21	respect to when felons are allowed to vote,	21	from the Department of Public Safety; is that
22	right?	22	right?
23	A. Correct.	23	A. That's correct.
24	Q. If the Court ruled for plaintiffs in	24	Q. Ms. Bell, are you aware that people who
25	this case and said North Carolina has to	25	are sentenced to probation in North Carolina do
	D 147	_	D 140
1	Page 147 implement a regime like the one plaintiffs seek	1	Page 149 not receive a term of incarceration before
1 2	8	1 2	
	implement a regime like the one plaintiffs seek		not receive a term of incarceration before
2	implement a regime like the one plaintiffs seek in this case, it wouldn't be very difficult for	2	not receive a term of incarceration before their probation begins?
2 3	implement a regime like the one plaintiffs seek in this case, it wouldn't be very difficult for you to make that change on your forms, right?	2 3	not receive a term of incarceration before their probation begins? A. Again, I don't work in the probation
2 3 4	<pre>implement a regime like the one plaintiffs seek in this case, it wouldn't be very difficult for you to make that change on your forms, right? A. I actually need to give some, I guess,</pre>	2 3 4	not receive a term of incarceration before their probation begins? A. Again, I don't work in the probation I don't work in the court system. I don't
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1	Page 150		Page 152
1	Q. And for such people, then, if we're	1	A. And they and your regime is it
2	living in a world where it's the regime that	2	moves forward.
3	plaintiffs seek, the Department of Public	3	Q. Right. Plaintiffs' dream comes true
4	Safety wouldn't need to send you any data about	4	and our regime is implemented. That means
5	those people at all, right, because they would	5	everyone who is on probation is allowed to
6	never be subject to the period of	6	vote.
7	disenfranchisement?	7	Will you accept that for my
8	A. I think I would need to know more	8	hypothetical?
9	information and work with those agencies to	9	A. Yes.
10	ensure that we're properly I don't know that	10	Q. So in that world, you wouldn't need to
11	process well enough to say that we would not	11	receive information from the Department of
12	need to receive information.	12	Public Safety about people on probation, right?
13	Q. Okay. Am I correct that under the	13	A. That seems logical. Correct.
14	current system, you only receive information	14	Q. Okay. So I'm going to also represent
15	from the Department of Public Safety about	15	to you again, I'll just ask you to accept
16	people who are ineligible to vote because of	16	this representation that about half the
17	their convictions? Right?	17	people convicted of felonies in North Carolina
18	MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the	18	are sentenced to probation and no terms of
19	evidence.	19	incarceration.
20	A. Actually, what I think we've	20	Will you accept that representation?
21	established is that they provide us a list of	21	A. Sure.
22	who are active felons, and then we determine	22	Q. Roughly half, I'll say.
23	their eligibility.	23	A. I don't know any different.
24	Q. Sure. You don't receive a list of	24	Q. Sure. We talked earlier about how the
25	people convicted of misdemeanors in	25	State Board has a list of all the people who
	Page 151		Page 153
1	Page 151 North Carolina, right?	1	Page 153 are serving an active felony sentence and are
2		2	9
2 3	North Carolina, right? A. That's correct. Q. And is the reason you don't receive a	2 3	are serving an active felony sentence and are ineligible to vote; is that right? A. Yes.
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Page 154	1	Page 156 that?
-		A. I do.
		Q. Under the regime that plaintiffs seek,
		instead of adding people to that list when they
		finish their post-release supervision, you
· · · · · · ·		could just add them to that list when they
-		finish their term of incarceration, right?
		A. I think it's not well, I would
		rely on DPS to provide the correct status to
		in order for us to receive that data on that
		list.
-		
		any reason that, instead of using the date that
		somebody finishes their post-release
		supervision, you couldn't use the date that
		they finished their term of incarceration; is
		that right?
		A. Provided that again, I think I would
		need to have more information of what the
		decision by the Court or the law allowed for
_		and whether there are any other conditions in
-		that.
		Q. Okay.
		A. But provided that that's the, you know,
Q. Okay. And are you aware that the	25	the criteria, and that's but that status
Page 155	1	Page 157
when such people are released from prison under	1	conveys that criteria, then we could receive it
	1 1	
	2	and process.
post-release supervision?	3	Q. Ms. Bell, sitting here today, you have
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	A. The county boards of elections would send notice to those who are being removed or denied, no matter whether that's 50 percent or Q. Right. A or 80 percent. Q. And just as a logical matter, as you put it before, if only about half the people become ineligible to vote from what is the case currently, then the county boards of elections would only need to send about half the number of notification letters, right? A. I mean, you are in a hypothetical, but if it's I mean, like, whatever the list is is what they're going to to mail. Q. Okay. So I'm going to transition now from people who are on probation and talk about people who did receive a term of incarceration. And as we talked before, people in North Carolina, currently, who are released from incarceration are released on something called "post-release supervision." I'm sure you recall that discussion? A. Yes. Q. Okay. And are you aware that the	A. The county boards of elections would send notice to those who are being removed or denied, no matter whether that's 50 percent or — 4 Q. Right. A. — or 80 percent. Q. And just as a logical matter, as you put it before, if only about half the people become ineligible to vote from what is the case currently, then the county boards of elections would only need to send about half the number of notification letters, right? A. I mean, you are in a hypothetical, but if it's — I mean, like, whatever the list is is what they're going to — to mail. Q. Okay. So I'm going to transition now from people who are on probation and talk about people who did receive a term of incarceration. And as we talked before, people in 19 North Carolina, currently, who are released from incarceration are released on something called "post-release supervision." I'm sure you recall that discussion? A. Yes. Q. Okay. And are you aware that the Page 155

25 and are now reeligible to vote. Do you recall 25 cite for me today that would prevent you from

30 (n	(v) Karen brinson b	·CII U	1 ages 136101
1	Page 158 implementing that regime?	1	Page 160 of this interrogatory asks the State Board to:
2	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	2	"State with specificity the purported
3	answered.	3	governmental interests in denying
4	A. As I said, there's there's I do	4	disenfranchised persons the right to vote"?
5	not have knowledge of that, no.	5	Do you see that?
6	Q. Okay. Thank you.	6	A. I do.
7	MR. COX: Dan, what were you thinking	7	Q. Can you hear me?
8	in terms of timing? This might be a good	8	A. I can.
9	time for a break.	9	Q. Okay. And, Ms. Bell, I'll represent to
10	MR. JACOBSON: Yeah. I was about to	10	you that in the actual interrogatories
11	say. I suspect I have somewhere in the	11	themselves, which is not part of this document,
12	area of a half hour left.	12	the definition section at least, the term
13	MR. COX: Okay.	13	"Disenfranchised Persons," with a capital D and
14	MR. JACOBSON: Although, I hate giving	14	a capital P, that was defined as persons on
15	quotes, because I might be wrong, but	15	probation, parole, or post-release supervision
16	that's what I would suspect.	16	who are not eligible to vote in North Carolina.
17	MR. COX: Well, let me ask Karen, then.	17	Will you accept that representation?
18	Karen, do you want to take a break and	18	A. I will.
19	come back, if it's going to be half an	19	Q. Okay. So this interrogatory asks the
20	hour, plus or minus? Do you want to take a	20	State Board to identify the governmental
21	break for lunch and come back?	21	interest in denying the right to vote to
22	THE WITNESS: Is it within reason to	22	persons on probation, parole, or post-release
23	ask Brian if he the amount of time that	23	supervision for a felony conviction; is that
24	he would need?	24	right?
25	THE REPORTER: Would you like to stay	25	A. That is what it states, yes.
1	Page 159 on the record here?	1	Page 161 Q. Okay. And then the interrogatory
2	MR. JACOBSON: We can go off the	2	I'm going to scroll down here to page 4. I
3	record.	3	think this is page 4.
4	(Brief discussion off the record.)	4	And right above where the bullet point
5	(Recess from 12:24 to 12:32 p.m.)	5	starts, do you see that it says, for the
6	MR. JACOBSON: Everybody ready to go	6	record: "The State Board" I'm sorry "The
7	back on the record?	7	State Board responds that the State may have a
8	THE REPORTER: Yes, sir.	8	number of legitimate governmental interests in
9	THE WITNESS: Good to go.	9	enacting and enforcing the citizenship
10	BY MR. JACOBSON:	10	restoration statute in question." And it then
11	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, this will be the final	11	lists nine such governmental interests. Do you
12	exhibit I show you today, I promise.	12	see that?
13	(Plaintiffs' P premarked.)	13	A. I do. I see three of them, yes.
14	BY MR. JACOBSON:	14	Q. Okay. There's four and then there's
15	Q. So this exhibit has been marked as	15	the other five. Do you see that?
16	Exhibit P. And it is the State Board's Amended	16	A. Yes, I see that.
17	Response to Interrogatory Number 7 of the	17	Q. Did you contribute to putting together
18	Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories.	18	this list of
19	Do you see that, Ms. Bell?	19	(Interruption.)
20	A. I do.	20	A. I'm sorry. I didn't hear your
21	Q. Have you seen this document before?	21	question.
22	A. I believe I have, yes.	22	Q. Ms. Bell, did you contribute to putting
23	Q. Okay. I'm going to scroll down now to	23	together this list of purported governmental
24	Interrogatory Number 7.	24	interests?
25	And do you see that the first sentence	25	A. No, I did not.
1 23			

30(n	(v)(v) Karen Dinisun D	CH U	ni v//10/2020 1 ages 102105
1	Page 162 Q. Okay. Other than your attorneys from	1	Page 164 Elections reviewed this list before it was
2	the Attorney General's Office, who else was	2	provided to plaintiffs?
3	involved in putting this list together?	3	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and
4	A. I'm not aware of who outside of the	4	answered.
5	Attorney General's Office.	5	A. I don't know. I do not know.
6	Q. Was anyone at the State Board of	6	
	•		Q. Okay. I'm going to, for the purposes
7	Elections involved in putting this list	7	of my next questions, I'm going to exclude what
8	together?	8	you see here as the first and the third
9	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	9	bullets. Do you want to just take a second to
10	answered.	10	read those bullets?
11	A. I would have to ask the counsel from	11	A. So you want me to read the first and
12	the Attorney General's Office who they worked	12	the third bullets?
13	with. I don't	13	Q. Just to yourself, so you know what I'm
14	Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that to the	14	talking about.
15	best of your knowledge sitting here today,	15	A. But just those two, is what you're
16	nobody from the Attorney General's Office	16	saying?
17	sorry. To the best of your knowledge sitting	17	Q. Correct. Correct.
18	here today, nobody from the State Board of	18	A. Okay. (Reviewing.) Okay.
19	Elections was involved in putting this list	19	Q. Okay. So my next questions are going
20	together?	20	to relate to only the other seven bullets
21	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	21	interests listed in the other seven bullets,
22	answered.	22	but not those two. Okay?
23	A. I don't know one way or the other.	23	A. Okay. So you just asked me to read two
24	Q. So you're not affirmatively aware of	24	that you don't want me to refer to?
25	anyone from the State Board in particular who	25	Q. How about this? Do you want me to
	Page 163		Page 165
1	was involved?	1	do you want to just take a second to read all
2	A. Again, I would have to I would want	2	nine bullets so we make sure we're on the same
3	to ask counsel from the Attorney General's	3	page?
4	Office who they worked with.	4	A. I think that's the better method, if
5	Q. Did you review this list before even	5	you don't mind. If I'm going to answer
6	though you weren't involved in putting it	6	questions, I'd like to know what I'm answering
7	together, did you review this list before it	7	the questions about. So, yes, I'd like to read
8	was sent to the plaintiffs as part of this	8	the others.
9	interrogatory response?	9	Q. Okay. Just tell me when you want me to
10	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	10	scroll to the next page.
11	answered.	11	A. Okay. (Reviewing.)
12	A. I don't recall reviewing this list, and	12	You can scroll to the next page.
13	it's in a draft form.	13	Q. (Scrolling.)
14	Q. To the best of your knowledge, did	14	A. (Reviewing.) Okay.
15	anyone from the State Board of Elections review	15	MR. COX: And, Dan, just for
16	this list before it was sent to plaintiffs?	16	clarification, are you going to be asking
17	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	17	questions about the last bullet as well?
18	answered.	18	MR. JACOBSON: This bullet?
19	A. I do not know if that would have been	19	MR. COX: Yeah.
20	a if the who the AG's office would have	20	MR. JACOBSON: I believe that's
21	worked with from our agency on that matter	21	yeah, the seven of the seven of the
22	on this matter, sorry.	22	nine.
23	Q. But sitting here today, you can't tell	23	MR. COX: So the Court's order said you
24	me that you affirmatively know that any	24	can ask questions about A through F, and
25	individual person from the State Board of	25	that's number G in your notice of
		1	•

	(b) Karen Brinson E		on 07/16/2020 Pages 166169
	Page 166		Page 168
1	deposition.	1	Dan, can I ask a clarifying question?
2	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. I hadn't picked	2	THE WITNESS: Yeah, I was going to say,
3	up on that. But how about this? I'll	3	I need you to clarify that.
4	exclude those three, then. So include the	4	But go ahead, Paul.
5	first, the third, and the last bullet.	5	MR. COX: Well, Dan, do you mind if I
6	Okay?	6	ask you to clarify?
7	MR. COX: Exclude those three, right?	7	MR. JACOBSON: Yeah. Go ahead. Go
8	MR. JACOBSON: Exclude those three. So	8	ahead.
9	I'm only asking about the other six. Okay?	9	MR. COX: When you said the State
10	THE WITNESS: Okay.	10	Board, are you referring to the Board as
11	BY MR. JACOBSON:	11	the board, or the Board as a whole agency
12	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, putting aside any	12	or what? Because
13	research that was done by your lawyers at the	13	MR. JACOBSON: Sure.
14	Attorney General's Office, did the State Board	14	MR. COX: Do you understand the
15	of Elections do any factual research or	15	difference?
16	investigation into the interests served by the	16	MR. JACOBSON: Yeah. So I'm
17	current disenfranchisement scheme today, in	17	referring when I say the State Board,
18	present day in order to generate this list	18	I'm referring to the entire agency that you
19	of six bullets?	19	oversee.
20	MR. COX: Objection.	20	THE WITNESS: Okay. And now will you
21	Karen, if answering this question might	21	state your question?
22	require you to divulge any communication	22	MR. JACOBSON: Sure.
23	between the State Board and its outside	23	THE WITNESS: I might need you to
24	counsel in creating this document, then	24	clarify something that you're asking me.
25	don't answer that. If you have knowledge	25	MR. JACOBSON: Sure.
	Page 167		Page 169
1	otherwise, you can answer it.	1	THE WITNESS: Go ahead.
2	A. Dan, if you'll state your question	2	BY MR. JACOBSON:
3	again.		O D 11 lead of a 2 and
		3	Q. Putting aside any discussions with your
4	Q. Yeah.	4	Q. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did
4 5	Q. Yeah. A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no"		
5 6	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but	4 5 6	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current
5 6 7	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's	4 5	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in
5 6 7 8	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research	4 5 6	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list?
5 6 7	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney	4 5 6 7	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for
5 6 7 8	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of	4 5 6 7 8	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets?	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know.	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions,
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred about the interests that the current
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme serves in practice
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme serves in practice today before this list was provided?
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list?	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme serves in practice today before this list was provided? MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. I don't know if I can say "yes" or "no" to it, but Q. Okay. Subject to Mr. Cox's qualification, and putting aside any research that was done by your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board of Elections itself conduct any factual research or investigation into the interests served by the current disenfranchisement scheme, in present day, in order to generate this list of six government interests listed in those six bullets? A. I do not know. Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions with your lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	lawyers at the Attorney General's Office, did the State Board engage in any discussions about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme actually serves in practice today before providing this list? A. I don't know what the right process for me to do here is, but that you're you're asking a question in a very legal format, but I don't know if I need clarification from my counsel to understand or if I need you to clarify more. Q. How about I try to ask it a little bit differently? A. Thank you. Q. Are you aware of any discussions, internal discussions within the State Board of Elections, about the interests that occurred about the interests that the current disenfranchisement scheme serves in practice today before this list was provided?

50(b)(0) Kuren Brinson E		1 07/10/2020 1 ages 170175
1	Page 170 practices?	1	Page 172 MR. COX: Objection. Vaque.
2	Q. We talked about a moment ago that the	2	A. In this case do you mean the agency or
3	interrogatory asks about the governmental	3	the Board?
4	interests that support the current	4	Q. The agency.
5	disenfranchisement scheme, right?	5	A. Then I do not know of such, no.
6	A. That we administer the law as it's	6	Q. Okay. I'm now going to turn to each of
7	written.	7	the interests, the six interests that we're
		8	talking about.
8	Q. Right. But the interrogatory that we talked about up here asks for to state with		3
9	_	9	Can you hear me?
10	specificity the purported government interests	10	A. Now we can.
11	in denying disenfranchisement, right?	11	Q. Okay. I have a mumbling problem that I
12	A. Correct.	12	try to fight as much as I can.
13	Q. And so my question is: Are you aware	13	So do you see these interests listed
14	of any discussions within the State Board of	14	here on the bottom of page 4, onto page 5, that
15	Elections about what are the current the	15	says: "Regulating, streamlining, and promoting
16	purported government interests in denying	16	voter registration and electoral participation
17	disenfranchised persons the right to vote today	17	among North Carolinians convicted of felonies
18	before this list was provided?	18	who have been reformed"?
19	MR. COX: Same objection. Vague.	19	A. I see that bullet point, yes.
20	A. The only way I know the best answer	20	Q. The State Board of Elections is the
21	I can give you is no. The reason I asked about	21	primary agency in North Carolina that oversees
22	practices is because so we've established	22	voter registration, right?
23	that we are updating some of our forms. So	23	A. That's correct, along with the county
24	that would indicate discussion, but I don't	24	boards of elections.
25	believe it's to I don't think it is to the	25	Q. And the State Board is an agency that
	Page 171	1	Page 173
1	legal framework that you're presenting.	1	is knowledgeable about, quote, electoral
2	Q. Okay. Did the State Board undertake	2	participation of North Carolinians?
3	any research or investigation into whether the	3	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
4	regime that plaintiffs seek would better serve	4	A. I was going to ask: What do you define
5	the interests listed in those six bullets that	5	"electoral participation"? Does that mean the
6	we're talking about in the current	6	percentage of turnout, or do you have another
7	disenfranchisement scheme?	7	definition?
8	MR. COX: Objection.	8	Q. Well, so this this you understand
9	Karen, in answering this, if you have	9	this bullet point was written by the State
10	knowledge about any research that was done	10	Board of Elections, right?
11	in connection with representation in this	11	MR. COX: Objection. Vague and calls
12	case, then don't answer that question. If	12	for a legal conclusion.
13	you have information independent of that,	13	A. Actually, my assumption is that it was
14	that you can provide, you can answer that	14	written by the Attorney General's Office and
15	question.	15	not by the State Board of Elections.
16	A. Actually, I do not have knowledge of	16	Q. What was meant in this bullet point by
17	such.	17	the words "electoral participation"?
18	Q. Okay. Putting aside any discussions	18	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
19	you had with your counsel at the Attorney	19	speculation.
20	General's Office, has the State Board engaged	20	A. Any explanation of electoral
21	in any deliberations about whether the regime	21	participation would be voter turnout and
22	that plaintiffs seek in this case would better	22	participation in an election, what percentage
23	serve the interests listed in those six bullets	23	of participation.
24	than the current disenfranchisement scheme?	24	Q. Okay. So is the State Board of
25	A. And in this case	25	Elections asserting that, as a factual matter

3 U(D	(0) Karen Brinson B	en u	on 0//16/2020 Pages 1/41//
1	Page 174	1	Page 176
1	in present day, that disenfranchisement of	1	THE WITNESS: Or may I request a break
2 3	persons on probation, parole, or post-release	2	to speak with my general counsel and not
	supervision regulates, streamlines, and	3	with Mr. Cox?
4	promotes voter registration and electoral	4	MR. JACOBSON: Paul, I will agree to
5	participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	5	that, that you can talk with her and I won't seek that information.
7	MR. COX: Objection. Compound. Vaque.	7	MR. COX: Okay.
8	A. Actually, I would like to take a	8	MR. JACOBSON: Okay?
9	moment. I would like to speak with counsel to	9	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
10	make sure that I'm understanding what I'm	10	(Recess from 12:51 to 12:55 p.m.)
11	representing here. Not to your question, but	11	THE WITNESS: I'm back. I apologize.
12	to this line of questioning.	12	MR. JACOBSON: That's okay.
13	MR. COX: Karen, do you need to talk to	13	Madam Court Reporter, are you ready?
14	make sure that you're not revealing any	14	THE REPORTER: Yes.
15	attorney-client information?	15	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Would you like me
16	THE WITNESS: That's right.	16	to ask the question again, Ms. Bell?
17	MR. COX: All right.	17	THE WITNESS: Yes, please. Thank you.
18	MR. JACOBSON: Paul, my understanding	18	MR. JACOBSON: Sure.
19	is that communications during depositions	19	BY MR. JACOBSON:
20	are not privileged. So I want to find that	20	O. Is the State Board of Elections
21	out.	21	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present
22	MR. COX: Well, if that's your if	22	day, the disenfranchisement of persons on
23	that's what you're if that's the	23	probation, parole, or post-release supervision
24	position you're going to take, then I won't	24	regulates, streamlines, and promotes voter
25	have a conversation with my client, but I	25	registration and electoral participation among
1	Page 175 will instruct her, if she is worried that	1	Page 177 North Carolinians convicted of felonies?
2	she is going to reveal attorney-client	2	MR. COX: Objection. Vague and
3	communications, not to answer the question.	3	compound.
4	And then I can find out whether she's wrong	4	A. I know you're going to get tired of
5	with that.	5	repeating, but I'd like to make sure that I'm
6	MR. JACOBSON: So, Paul, under the	6	hearing you correctly. Will you state it
7	protective order that was issued yesterday,	7	again?
8	Ms. Bell has to answer questions about	8	Q. Okay. Sure. And before I state it
9	these bullet points as they relate to	9	again, maybe I'll just what I'm asking is,
10	factual assertions, and that's exactly what	10	is the State Board asserting well, I'll just
11	my question was. So she can't you can't	11	read the question again, actually
12	instruct her not to answer.	12	A. Okay.
13	MR. COX: I can instruct her I can	13	Q rather than characterizing my own
14	always instruct her not to answer a	14	questions.
15	question if it's going to reveal	15	Is the State Board of Elections
16	attorney-client communications. Nothing	16	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present
17	about this court order abridges the	17	day, the disenfranchisement of persons on
18	attorney-client privilege.	18	probation, parole, or post-release supervision
19	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. Do you want to	19	regulates, streamlines, and promotes voter
20	take a break to talk with Ms. Bell, and	20	registration and electoral participation among
21	then we can resume?	21	North Carolinians convicted of felonies?
22	MR. COX: Yeah. Do you agree that I	22	MR. COX: Objection. Compound. Vague.
23	can talk with Ms. Bell and you're not going	23	A. If you're asking whether the State has
24	to seek the information disclosed between	24	had a policy the State Board has developed a
25	us?	25	policy about this, I would answer no.

1	(v) Karen Bimson L		1 uges 170101
1 -	Page 178 Q. Could you define to me what you mean by	1	Page 180 talking about promotes voter registration and
2	the word "policy"?	2	electoral participation among North Carolinians
3	A. Outside of administering the law, as it	3	convicted of felonies so let's say somebody
4	is written, the State Board has not developed	4	asserts that and then the question is: What
5	other policy.	5	factual evidence do you have to support that
6	Q. Okay. How about this? I'm going to	6	assertion?
7	take the three verbs in here one at a time.	7	And so what I'm asking is: Does the
8	Because you see there's three verbs in here.	8	State Board have any factual evidence that the
9	A. I do.	9	disenfranchisement of people on community
10	Q. Regulating, streamlining, and	10	supervision promotes voter registration and
11	promoting. So I'm going to start with	11	electoral participation among North Carolinians
12	"promoting" or "promotes."	12	convicted of felonies?
13	Is the State Board asserting that, as a	13	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
14	factual matter, in present day, the	14	A. So my previous response to you is that
15	disenfranchisement of persons on probation,	15	I don't believe the State Board has asserted or
16	parole, or post-release supervision promotes	16	taken a position that disenfranchisement
17	voter registration and electoral participation	17	promotes voter registration.
18	among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	18	Q. Okay.
19	A. I don't believe the State Board has	19	A. So if we have not taken a position or
20	asserted one way or the other. So I would	20	asserted, then I don't believe I can say that
21	defer to the Attorney General's Office who	21	we have factual information one way or the
22	wrote this interrogatory.	22	other either.
23	Q. But, Ms. Bell, respectfully, I'm asking	23	Q. So when you say "one way or the other,"
24	for the State Board's position, not the	24	am I correct that sitting here today, you do
25	position of the Attorney General's Office.	25	not have factual evidence you can cite to me
	Page 179		Dogg 101
1	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	1	Page 181 that would support such an assertion?
2	answered.	2	A. Not that I'm aware of.
3	BY MR. JACOBSON:	3	Q. Okay. In fact, Ms. Bell, doesn't
4	Q. Is the State Board asserting that, as a	4	disenfranchising people on probation, parole,
5	factual matter, sitting here today, the	5	or post-release supervision prevent such people
	disenfranchisement of people on community	1	
6	disentialisment of people on community	6	registering to vote and participating in
6 7	supervision promotes voter registration and	6 7	registering to vote and participating in elections?
7	supervision promotes voter registration and	7	elections?
7 8	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians	7 8	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier
7 8 9	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	7 8 9	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't
7 8 9 10	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	7 8 9 10	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We
7 8 9 10 11	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered.	7 8 9 10 11	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written.
7 8 9 10 11 12	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe	7 8 9 10 11 12	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote,
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not.	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right?
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7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not. Q. Does the State Board of Elections have any factual evidence that the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision promotes	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right? A. That's correct. Q. And they're not allowed to register to
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not. Q. Does the State Board of Elections have any factual evidence that the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right? A. That's correct. Q. And they're not allowed to register to vote? A. They can complete a voter registration form, but they may not be processed as a
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not. Q. Does the State Board of Elections have any factual evidence that the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision promotes	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right? A. That's correct. Q. And they're not allowed to register to vote? A. They can complete a voter registration
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7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not. Q. Does the State Board of Elections have any factual evidence that the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right? A. That's correct. Q. And they're not allowed to register to vote? A. They can complete a voter registration form, but they may not be processed as a registered voter. Q. So if you disenfranchise a person, it prevents them from registering to vote and
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7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Asked and answered. A. I believe I stated that I don't believe the State Board has asserted that one way or the other has asserted or not. Q. Does the State Board of Elections have any factual evidence that the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release supervision promotes voter registration and electoral participation among North Carolinians convicted of felonies? MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. What do you mean by "factual information"?	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	elections? A. I believe when you asked this earlier in your questioning, I identified that I don't know whether it promotes or discourages. We administer the law as it's written. Q. Ms. Bell, if somebody is disenfranchised, they're not allowed to vote, right? A. That's correct. Q. And they're not allowed to register to vote? A. They can complete a voter registration form, but they may not be processed as a registered voter. Q. So if you disenfranchise a person, it prevents them from registering to vote and voting, correct?

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1	Page 182 plaintiffs seek in this case, in which persons	1	Page 184 parole, or post-release supervision streamlines
2	on community supervision are allowed to vote,	2	voter registration and electoral participation
3	wouldn't that better promote voter registration	3	among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?
4	and electoral participation among such persons?	4	A. I don't know that we are asserting
5	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	5	that.
6	speculation.	6	Q. Okay. Does the State Board have any
7	A. I do believe you're asking me to make a	7	factual evidence that disenfranchising people
8	correlation that I don't know if there's a	8	on probation, parole, or post-release
9	direct correlation or not.	9	supervision streamlines voter registration and
10	Q. What does the word "promote" mean to	10	electoral participation among North Carolinians
11	you?	11	convicted of felonies?
12	A. "Promote" means to encourage or to	12	A. I cannot say yes to the question that
13	publicize it depends on what in what	13	you're asking.
14	context, but to promote means to it's	14	O. Okay. Does the State Board of
15	it's a forward motion. It's a it's a move	15	Elections believe that the current
16	in that direction, so	16	disenfranchisement scheme streamlines voter
17	O. So if you take somebody who is	17	registration and electoral participation among
18	currently not allowed to vote, and you tell	18	North Carolinians convicted of felonies more
19	them that they are allowed to vote, doesn't	19	than the regime sought by plaintiffs?
20	that promote their voter registration and	20	MR. COX: Objection. And this is
21	electoral participation?	21	outside the scope and it violates the
22	A. Yes.	22	Court's order.
23	O. Okay. So I'd like to now think of it	23	Karen, I'm going to instruct you not to
24	~ *	24	
25	from the standpoint under the current law after somebody's rights have been restored. So when	25	answer that question, because it requires
25	somebody's rights have been restored. So when	25	you to do some legal analysis.
1	Page 183	1	Page 185
1	they finish their felony probation, for	1	MR. JACOBSON: Paul, I'm asking as a
2	instance, or post-release supervision.	2	factual matter with the word
3	Does the State Board have any factual	3	"streamlining."
4	evidence that having withheld that person's	4	MR. COX: I understand, Dan. But
5	voting rights for the duration of their	5	you're asking her to interpret two
6	community supervision promotes their voter	6	different legal schemes and to apply those
7	registration or electoral participation after	7	legal schemes to a set of facts. That's
8	their rights are restored?	8	why I'm objecting. If you want to ask a
9	MR. COX: Objection. Vague and	9	question that's purely factual in nature, I
10	confusing.	10	won't object.
11	A. I don't know that we have that	11	BY MR. JACOBSON:
12	information. No, I do not know.	12	Q. Okay. You recall how I defined the
13	Q. I'll move on now to "streamline," the	13	regime that plaintiffs are seeking in this
14	verb "streamline" or "streamlining."	14	case; is that right?
15	Is the State Board asserting that, as a	15	A. I do.
16	factual, in present day, the disenfranchisement	16	Q. Does the State Board have any reason to
17	of persons on probation, parole, or	17	doubt that such a regime would streamline voter
18	post-release supervision streamlines voter	18	registration and electoral participation among
19	registration and electoral participation among	19	North Carolinians convicted of felonies?
20	North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	20	A. The Board has not taken a position on
21	A. I think actually, will you state	21	that regime, because that is not the law as we
22	your question one more time, please?	22	would administer. So our ability to streamline
23	Q. Sure. Is the State Board of Elections	23	that process is not determined.
24			
24	asserting that, as a factual matter, today, the	24	Q. Okay. And finally on the verb
24 25	asserting that, as a factual matter, today, the disenfranchisement of people on probation,	24 25	Q. Okay. And finally on the verb "regulates." Would you agree with me,

3 U(D)(6) Karen Brinson E	sen o	on 07/16/2020 Pages 186189
1	Page 186		Page 188
1	Ms. Bell, that the regime that plaintiffs seek	1	A. State your question again, please.
2	in this case would also, quote, regulate the	2	Q. Sure. Is the State Board of Elections
3	voter registration and electoral participation	3	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present
4	among North Carolinians convicted of felonies?	4	day, the disenfranchisement of persons on
5	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	5	probation, parole, or post-release supervision
6	speculation.	6	simplifies the administration of the process of
7	A. Be it your regime, or as it stands,	7	restoring voting rights to people with felony
8	that that is the administrative capacity of our	8	convictions? MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
	agency, is to regulate the law in that as it's written.		, , ,
10		10	A. I don't I don't know that that's the
11 12	Q. Okay.	11 12	assertion that's being made here. Q. What is the assertion that's being made
13	A. So that's all I can answer to is, we would administer the law as it's written.	13	
14	O. That's fine. I'll move on now to	14	here, in your view?
15	another bullet point. And let's look at the	15	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion.
16	second one here, which is: "Simplifying the	16	Q. Let me ask it this way: Ms. Bell, are
17	administration of the process to restore the	17	you I just want to make sure I understand
18	rights of citizenship to North Carolinians	18	your last answer are you saying that the
19	convicted of felonies who have served their	19	second bullet point listed here is asserting
20	sentences." Do you see that one?	20	something different from what I asked?
21	A. I do.	21	A. I'm saying that what you may define as
22	Q. And, Ms. Bell, isn't it the case that	22	simplifying may not be what I define as
23	the State Board of Elections administers the	23	simplifying.
24	process of both preventing people with felony	24	Q. Okay. How would you define
25	convictions from voting and then allowing them	25	"simplifying"?
1	Page 187 to reregister to vote once they've completed	1	Page 189 A. My perspective, as the executive
2	their sentences?	2	director, is that simplifying could be
3	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	3	efficiencies in how we administer a process.
4	A. That is we do administer.	4	Or it could be simplified could be the fact
5	Q. Okay.	5	that we use technology even though that's not a
6	A. Yes.	6	simple process.
7	Q. And is the State Board of Elections	7	Q. Okay. And so under your definition of
8	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	8	"simplify," whatever that is, is the State
9	day, the disenfranchisement of persons on	9	Board of Elections asserting that, as a factual
10	probation, parole, or post-release supervision	10	matter, in present day, the disenfranchisement
11	simplifies the administration of the process of	11	of people on community supervision simplifies
12	restoring voting rights to persons with felony	12	the administration of the process of restoring
13	convictions?	13	voting rights to people with felony
14	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	14	convictions?
15	A. As I read this bullet point, what the	15	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
16	State Board is asserting is that we are charged	16	A. I will state that I don't believe the
17	with the administration of the process.	17	State Board has issued a policy or made an
18	Q. Well, Ms. Bell, the bullet point says	18	assertion to that.
19	"simplify." And so what I'm asking is: Is the	19	Q. Okay. Does the State Board of
20	State Board asserting, as a factual matter,	20	Elections have any factual evidence that
21	today, disenfranchising people on community	21	disenfranchising people on probation, parole,
22	supervision, simplifies the administration of	22	or post-release supervision simplifies the
23	the process of restoring voting rights?	23	administration of the process of restoring
24	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. Misstates	24	voting rights?
25	the evidence.	25	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.

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1	Page 190	1	Page 192
1 2	A. I do not know. O. So sitting here today, there's no	1 2	simplify the process or reduce the process.
3	~ 3 1	3	There may be other elements introduced.
	factual evidence you could point me to?		Q. Okay. I'll turn now to another bullet in the top the first full bullet on page 5,
4	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and	4	
5	answered. A. I do not know. I would defer to the	5	which says: "Avoiding confusion among North
6		6	Carolinians convicted of felonies as to when
7	Attorney General's Office.	7	their rights are restored."
8	Q. But in your capacity and I'm sorry	8	Do you see that?
9	to keep asking but in your capacity as, you	9	A. I do.
10	know, a designated witness for the State Board	10	Q. And is it correct, Ms. Bell, that the
11	of Elections, sitting here today, you can't	11	State Board of Elections interacts with voters
12	personally point me to any evidence, factual	12	who may have confusion about their eligibility
13	evidence, that disenfranchising people on	13	to vote due to a felony conviction?
14	community supervision simplifies administration	14	A. It's correct that the State Board of
15	of the process of restoring voting rights?	15	Elections interacts with voters, felon or not
16	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. Asked and	16	felon.
17	answered.	17	Q. But including voters who may have
18	A. I cannot. To me, the question is about	18	confusion about their eligibility, right?
19	the administration of elections.	19	A. Yes.
20	Q. Okay.	20	Q. Is the Board of Elections asserting
21	A. Or bullet point, rather. I'm sorry.	21	that, as a factual matter, in present day, the
22	Q. That's okay. You recall that we talked	22	disenfranchisement of people on probation,
23	about earlier about how, under the regime that	23	parole, or post-release supervision avoids
24	plaintiffs seek, the state and county boards of	24	confusion among North Carolinians convicted of
25	elections may need to process data on far fewer	25	felonies as to when their rights are restored?
1		1	
	Page 191		Page 193
1	Page 191 people, maybe as much as half as many people,	1	Page 193 MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
1 2	8	1 2	8
1	people, maybe as much as half as many people,		MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
2	people, maybe as much as half as many people, because those people wouldn't be sentenced to a	2	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. State your question again, please.
2 3	people, maybe as much as half as many people, because those people wouldn't be sentenced to a term of imprisonment? Do you remember that?	2 3	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. State your question again, please. Q. Is the North Carolina Board of
2 3 4	people, maybe as much as half as many people, because those people wouldn't be sentenced to a term of imprisonment? Do you remember that? A. I believe you presented that as a	2 3 4	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. State your question again, please. Q. Is the North Carolina Board of Elections asserting that, as a factual matter,
2 3 4 5	people, maybe as much as half as many people, because those people wouldn't be sentenced to a term of imprisonment? Do you remember that? A. I believe you presented that as a hypothetical.	2 3 4 5	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. State your question again, please. Q. Is the North Carolina Board of Elections asserting that, as a factual matter, in present day, the disenfranchisement of
2 3 4 5 6	people, maybe as much as half as many people, because those people wouldn't be sentenced to a term of imprisonment? Do you remember that? A. I believe you presented that as a hypothetical. Q. Okay. So assuming, again, that that	2 3 4 5 6	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. A. State your question again, please. Q. Is the North Carolina Board of Elections asserting that, as a factual matter, in present day, the disenfranchisement of people on probation, parole, or post-release
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	(v) Karen Brillson E		
1	Page 194 avoids confusion among North Carolinians	1	Page 196 A. Yes.
2	convicted of felonies as to when their rights	2	Q. And you can correct me if I'm wrong,
3	are restored?	3	but I think you've acknowledged that it's at
4	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	4	least possible that some persons would be on
	A. I don't believe that the State Board		
5		5	post-release supervision would be confused by
6	has asserted that disenfranchising such persons	6	that omission?
7	avoids confusion.	7	MR. COX: Objection. Misstates prior
8	Q. Okay. Does the State Board have any	8	testimony.
9	factual evidence that disenfranchising people	9	A. I don't I don't recall that I stated
10	on probation, parole, or post-release	10	that.
11	supervision avoids confusion among persons	11	Q. Okay. I'll just ask you, then. Do you
12	convicted of felonies about their eligibility	12	believe it's, at least, possible that some
13	to vote?	13	people on post-release supervision could be
14	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	14	confused by the omission of post-release
15	A. I don't know of factual evidence about	15	supervision on those forms and manuals?
16	the enfranchise or disenfranchisement, if such	16	A. I believe I stated that I don't know
17	person exists.	17	whether that creates confusion or not.
18	Q. So my question was a little bit	18	Q. Okay. Ms. Bell, do you agree that
19	different. It was about avoiding confusion.	19	compared to the current disenfranchisement
20	And so my question is: Does the State	20	scheme, a much less confusing role would be
21	Board have any factual evidence that	21	that if you're not in prison, you're allowed to
22	disenfranchising people on community	22	vote?
23	supervision avoids confusion?	23	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
24	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	24	speculation.
25	A. I don't know of factual evidence	25	A. Would you state your question one more
	Page 195		Page 197
1	Q. Okay.	1	time, please?
2	A that we have to that effect of	2	Q. Sure. Would you agree that compared to
3	disenfranchising such persons avoids confusion.	3	the current scheme, a much less confusing role
4	Q. Okay. And do you recall that we talked	4	would be that if you're not incarcerated or in
5	earlier about the examples and high-profile	_	
6		5	prison, you're allowed to vote?
	examples of whether people who voted who	6	prison, you're allowed to vote? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
7	examples of whether people who voted who weren't allowed to vote and were prosecuted who		
7 8		6	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
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8 9	weren't allowed to vote and were prosecuted who said that they just didn't know that they ineligible? Do you remember that?	6 7 8	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation. A. I don't one, I don't think I have a point of comparison, because we have not had
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8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	weren't allowed to vote and were prosecuted who said that they just didn't know that they ineligible? Do you remember that? A. I remember that news article, yes. Q. And, you know, with the Alamance 12 and the four individuals in Hoke County? Do you remember that? A. Yes. Q. So as to those individuals, the current disenfranchisement scheme did not avoid confusion, right? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation. A. I don't think I can make that determination based upon one news article. Q. Okay. You recall that we talked earlier about how some of the State Board's forms and manuals failed to mention	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation. A. I don't one, I don't think I have a point of comparison, because we have not had the regime that you suggest to determine whether that would create confusion or not. Q. Okay. Well, let's think about this from the perspective of election administrators and poll workers and so on. And, actually, I think they're active workers. Wouldn't it be much less confusing for them to just know that if somebody is not incarcerated, they're allowed to vote? A. As compared to? Q. Just in general. If somebody shows up to vote in person, that means they're not incarcerated, right? MR. COX: Is that a question? BY MR. JACOBSON:
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	weren't allowed to vote and were prosecuted who said that they just didn't know that they ineligible? Do you remember that? A. I remember that news article, yes. Q. And, you know, with the Alamance 12 and the four individuals in Hoke County? Do you remember that? A. Yes. Q. So as to those individuals, the current disenfranchisement scheme did not avoid confusion, right? MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation. A. I don't think I can make that determination based upon one news article. Q. Okay. You recall that we talked earlier about how some of the State Board's	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for speculation. A. I don't one, I don't think I have a point of comparison, because we have not had the regime that you suggest to determine whether that would create confusion or not. Q. Okay. Well, let's think about this from the perspective of election administrators and poll workers and so on. And, actually, I think they're active workers. Wouldn't it be much less confusing for them to just know that if somebody is not incarcerated, they're allowed to vote? A. As compared to? Q. Just in general. If somebody shows up to vote in person, that means they're not incarcerated, right? MR. COX: Is that a question?

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	Page 198		Page 200
1	up at a polling place, they're not	1	evidence and is vague.
2	incarcerated, right? We can agree on that?	2	Actually, I'll withdraw the "Misstates
3	A. We would assume that.	3	the evidence," because I don't think that
4	Q. I mean, unless	4	you're referring to that. My bad, Dan.
5	A. There was a gentleman who was	5	MR. JACOBSON: No problem.
6	incarcerated who was out and about last week,	6	A. State your question one more time.
7	so	7	Q. Sure. Is the State Board of Election
8	Q. Okay. As a general matter, unless the	8	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present
9	State Board of Elections is planning on opening	9	day, the disenfranchisement of people on
10	polling places in prisons, we can agree that if	10	probation, parole, or post-release supervision
11	a person shows up at a polling place, they're	11	eliminates burdens on North Carolinians
12	not physically incarcerated, right?	12	convicted of felonies to take extra steps to
13	A. That would I think that would be the	13	have their rights restored after having
14	assumption, yes.	14	completed their sentences?
15	Q. And so wouldn't it be very simple for	15	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.
16	election officials to know that because that	16	A. I don't believe the State Board is
17	person is not incarcerated, they're not	17	asserting that. I think I don't believe the
18	disqualified by virtue of a felony conviction?	18	State Board is asserting that.
19	A. Did you ask if it would be easier? Was	19	Q. Does the State Board of Elections have
20	that your question?	20	any factual evidence that disenfranchising
21	Q. Would it be straightforward? You're an	21	people on probation, parole, or post-release
22	election official, right? You can just know,	22	supervision eliminates burdens on North
23	if the person is here physically, they're not	23	Carolinians convicted of felonies to take extra
24	incarcerated, and so they're not disqualified	24	steps to have their rights restored?
25	because of any felony conviction.	25	A. I do not know.
	2 400		
1	Page 199 A. No matter	1	Q. So sitting here today, you can't point
2	O. When that	2	me to any factual evidence of such?
3	A. No matter the circumstance, it's going	3	MR. COX: Objection. Asked and
4	to still be our job to ensure that they meet	4	answered.
5	the qualifications.	5	Karen, you can answer that question
6	Q. Okay.	6	again.
7	A. So I don't determine just like I	7	THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'm reading the
8	don't determine age by looking at someone. I	8	statement.
9	ask that question.	9	A. I do not know.
10	Q. Okay. I'll turn to the next bullet	10	Q. Okay. Under the regime that plaintiffs
11	or a bullet here: "Eliminating burdens on	11	seek in this case, where you're eligible to
12	North Carolinians convicted of felonies to take	12	vote if you're not in prison, does the State
13	extra steps to have their rights restored after	13	Board have any evidence or reason to believe
14	having completed their sentences."	14	that that would impose additional burdens on
15	Do you see that?	15	North Carolinians convicted of felonies to take
16	A. I do.	16	extra steps to have their rights restored?
17	O. Is the State Board of Elections	17	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for
	~		-
18	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	18 19	speculation.
19	day, the disenfranchisement of people on		A. Since that has not been the law, we
20	probation, parole, or post-release supervision	20	would not have anything to come to for that.
21	eliminates burdens on North Carolinians	21	Q. Okay. I'll turn to the second-to-last
22	convicted of felonies to take extra steps to	22	one now: "Encouraging compliance with court
23	have their rights restored after having	23	orders."
24	completed their sentence?	24	Do you see that?
25	MR. COX: Objection. Misstates the	25	A. I do.

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1	Page 202		Page 204	
1	Q. Is the State Board of Elections	1	Q. Okay. Does the State Board have any	
2	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	2	factual evidence that withholding voting rights	
3	day, the disenfranchisement of people on	3	to people on probation, parole, or post-release	
4	probation, parole, or post-release supervision	4	supervision leads to greater compliance with	
5	encourages compliance with court orders?	5	court orders?	
6	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	6	A. I don't know that we have evidence one	
7	A. Do you want to clarify?	7	way or the other.	
8	Q. I can repeat the question.	8	Q. Okay. Does the State Board have any	
9	A. Okay.	9	evidence that the disenfranchisement regime	
10	Q. Does the State Board of Elections	10	that plaintiffs are seeking in this case would	
11	I'm sorry. Is the State Board of Elections	11	be to less compliance with court orders?	
12	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	12	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	
13	day, the disenfranchisement of people on	13	speculation.	
14	probation, parole, or post-release supervision	14	A. I don't know that we have anything one	
15	encourages compliance with court orders?	15	way or the other.	
16	MR. COX: Objection. Vague.	16	Q. Okay. Last one: "Ensuring that all	
17	A. I don't think that there's an assertion	17	persons convicted of felonies fully satisfy	
18	here. I think that what this states is that we	18	their obligations before their citizenship	
19	are ensuring the compliance with court orders	19	rights are restored."	
20	that would not allow someone to vote if they	20	Do you see that?	
21	are a felon as the law is written.	21	A. Yes.	
22	Q. So I'm going to ask you to assume that	22	Q. What does "obligations" mean in this	
23	"court orders" in this sentence refers to the	23	bullet point?	
24	terms of somebody's probation or parole or	24	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for a legal	
25	post-release supervision. You know, you have	25	conclusion. Calls for speculation.	
	Page 203		Page 205	
1	to be present once a week before your officer,	1	A. The way I read this bullet point is	
2	you owe this amount of money, et cetera,	2	that the State Board and, therefore, the county	
3	et cetera.	3	boards of elections, ensure that all persons	
4	Will you accept that representation?	4	convicted of felony offenses fully satisfy	
5	A. I will.	5	their obligations before their rights of	
6	Q. Okay. So if that's what "court orders"	6	citizenship are restored. So if they are	
7	means here, is the State Board asserting that,	7	registering to vote, if they are able to answer	
8	as a factual matter, in present day, the	8	the question regarding their status of their	
9	disenfranchisement of people on community	9	felony status.	
10	supervision encourages compliance with court	10	Q. Okay. And that's and just to	
11	orders?	11	clarify, that's what "obligation" means here?	
12	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	12	MR. COX: Objection. Call for a legal	
13	speculation. Vague.	13	conclusion. Calls for speculation.	
14	A. If the court order is that they have	14	A. That would be my interpretation, that	
15	not completed their sentence, then we are	15	that is not I don't know what the legal	
16	administering the law as it's written.	16	definition would be.	
17	Q. But is the State Board asserting that	17	Q. Okay. Is the State Board of Elections	
18	the fact that disenfranchisement encourages	18	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	
19	individuals convicted of felonies to comply	19	day, disenfranchising people on community	
20	with the terms of their probation, parole, or	20	supervision ensures that all people convicted	
21	post-release supervision?	21	of felonies fully satisfy their obligations	
22	MR. COX: Objection. Calls for	22	before their rights of citizenship are	
23	speculation. Vague.	23	restored?	
24	A. I don't know that the State Board has	24	MR. COX: Objection. Vague. Calls for	
25	asserted that.	25	speculation.	
1		I		

50(D)(0) Rai en Bimson B		n 07/10/2020 1 ages 200::207
1	Page 206 A. State your question one more time,	1	Page 208 Q. Do you know whether those investigators
2	please.	2	were relying on the same data that the State
3	O. Sure. Is the State Board of Elections	3	Board of Elections gets to identify people
4	asserting that, as a factual matter, in present	4	serving an active sentence and are registered
5	day, ensuring that disenfranchising people on	5	voters when they perform that audit to make
6	community supervision ensures that all people	6	those determinations about people who voted
7	convicted of felony offenses fully satisfy	7	while serving a felony sentence?
8	their obligations before their rights of	8	A. I don't know precisely what all data
9	citizenship are restored?	9	was used. I would assume that that was part of
10	MR. COX: Same objections.	10	the data, if not all. I don't know.
11	A. As the law is written currently, which	11	Q. But you don't know for sure?
12	we administer, community supervision or	12	A. I don't know for sure.
13	community I believe you said community	13	Q. Just a couple of quick questions.
14	supervision or community service?	14	Roughly how long do you think you spent
15	Q. Community supervision, yeah.	15	preparing for this deposition between
16	A. Community supervision would mean that	16	conversations with attorneys, conversations
17	they had not fulfilled their obligations and,	17	with staff, reviewing the materials, and any
18	therefore, would not be allowed to register to	18	other preparation you undertook?
19	vote.	19	A. I would say, including the time that I
20	MR. JACOBSON: Okay. I believe I'm	20	spent reading documents, 8 to 10, maybe
21	done with questions, but I'd like to take	21	12 hours.
22	two minutes just to confer with my	22	Q. And if you can just kind of give us a
23	colleagues to make sure I didn't miss	23	general synopsis of the things you weren't able
24	anything.	24	to do today because you were preparing or
25	MR. COX: Okay.	25	today or yesterday or any day before that
1	Page 207 MR. JACOBSON: Let's go off the record	1	Page 209 because you were preparing for this deposition
2	for two minutes.	2	or upon conducting your deposition?
3	MR. COX: Sure.	3	A. I postponed meetings pertaining to the
4	MR. JACOBSON: Thanks.	4	absentee by mail envelope that we need to have
5	(Recess from 1:33 to 1:36 p.m.)	5	sent to printers this week.
6	MR. JACOBSON: Back on the record.	6	I've postponed a meeting dealing with
7	Plaintiffs have no further questions	7	voter registration and enhancements in our
8	for now subject to reserving the right to	8	SEIMS system that we need to have out. We need
9	re-cross if anyone else asks questions.	9	to have tested, developed or excuse me
10	EXAMINATION	10	developed, tested, and ready to go out during
11	BY MR. COX:	11	our release on August 28th.
12		12	I postponed a meeting dealing with our
13	Q. Okay. I'll ask just a couple of questions, Karen.	13	help desk process improvement and incident
			escalation.
14	And for the record, this is Paul Cox	14	
15	from the Attorney General's Office.	15	I am not able to work on the tracking
16	Do you recall that you and Mr. Jacobson	16	of our responses to COVID-19.
17	were discussing a 2017 audit report produced by	17	We have numerous follow-ups after
18	the State Board of Elections?	18	awarding our CARES Act funds to the counties.
19	A. I do.	19	I am currently trying to work with
20	Q. Do you recall that there was a	20	possible income contributions for our PPE, and
21	discussion about false positives in terms of	21	I can't do that while I'm in depositions.
22	the number of people that the investigators	22	We have a new director of training
23	determined had voted illegally because they	23	going on that I could not further participate
24	were serving a felony sentence?	24	in.
25	A. I do.	25	We have a state conference that's

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     coming up that I need to be prepared for.
 2
              I could go on, but that's some of the
 3
     things that immediately come to mind.
 4
             MR. COX: Okay. Thank you. No further
 5
         questions.
 6
             Brian, do you have any questions?
 7
             MR. RABINOVITZ: There are no questions
 8
         from the legislative defendants.
 9
              MR. JACOBSON: Nothing further from the
10
         plaintiffs.
11
             Ms. Bell, I truly do appreciate your
12
         time today. Thank you.
13
             THE WITNESS: Thank you.
14
              MR. JACOBSON: So plaintiffs will take
15
         one copy, and you can send it to me.
16
             MR. COX: And defendants will take one
17
         copy, electronic.
18
              (Time noted: 1:42 p.m.)
19
              (Signature waived.)
20
21
22
23
24
25
                                                 Page 211
                   REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
1
    NORTH CAROLINA )
    WAKE COUNTY
             I, Denise Y. Meek, a Court Reporter and
6
    Notary Public in and for the State of North Carolina,
7
   do hereby certify that prior to the commencement of
     the examination, KAREN BRINSON BELL, was duly
    remotely sworn by me to testify to the truth, the
    whole truth, and nothing but the truth.
             I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing is a
10
    verbatim transcript of the testimony as taken
    stenographically by me at the time, place, and on the
    date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my
    ability.
12
             I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
13
    relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any
    of the parties to this action, and that {\tt I} am neither
    a relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel
    hereto, and that I am not financially interested in
15
    the action.
             IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my
16
    hand this 31st day of July 2020.
                              Glenise & Mee 12
17
18
19
                             DENISE Y. MEEK
                            Court Reporter/Notary Public
2.0
                            State of North Carolina
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                             COMMISSION: 201519500202
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                            EXPIRATION: July 8, 2025
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90:15,16,	112:25	170:19	114:12
17,18	147:12	172:1	115:11
103:7		173:3,11	140:25
104:22	updated 28:15	174:7	144:17
105:11	95:13 99:9	177:2,22	
109:20,21		179:21	versions 110:20
127:9	111:19,22 117:6	180:13	
130:7	_	183:9	114:5,8
131:1	126:15	187:3,14,	versus 90:16
139:2	updates 28:9	24 188:9	video 99:17
174:10,18	updating	189:15,25	
,	58:23 94:9	•	view 188:13
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95:23	170:23	194:4,14,	violated
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208:18	94:10		violations
	95:22	variables	15:16
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121:8	v	148:15	virtue
uniformity		vary 147:9,	198:18
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122:5	63:13 75:2	verb 183:14	voice 91:16
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136:20	134:15	25:2	20,22
untimely	157:7	version	20,22
35:15		28:6,10	28:20 29:2
22.12	167:25	20,0,10	∠o·∠∪ ∠y·∠

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE, ET AL. vs TIMOTHY K. MOORE, ET AL. 30(b)(6) Karen Brinson Bell on 07/16/2020 Index: voted..voter's

30(b)(6)	Karen Brinson	Bell on 07/16/2020	Index: votedvoter's
31:2,18,	101:4,12	17,22	61:19,24
21,25	103:10	182:2,18,	62:9 69:5
32:4,8,11	105:14,20,	19 187:1	83:5 91:5
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34:19	112:12	194:13	100:8
35:18	116:4,13	195:7	103:21
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44:12,21	131:16	voted 15:13	140:19,25
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46:7,18,24	133:4	74:23	21 144:11,
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74:10 83:8	150:16	17:21	9,16
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89:9,23	154:9	46:8,16	36:20 54:7
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92:22	160:4,16,	58:22	96:16
99:25	21 170:17	59:22	103:9
100:20	181:6,13,	60:1,4	

30(b)(6)	Karen Brinson	Bell on 07/16/2020	Index: votersworkers
voters 14:17	106:1	55:23	11:19
33:5	107:17	125:1	95:15
34:12,14,	112:13,15	Warren 120:6	word 64:5
18 35:24	113:6,10	126:24	
37:10	115:14		101.10
40:25	117:16,17,	watch 106:19	147:5
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21 74:8,17	121:8	145:24	185:2
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82:17	24 123:8,	114:7,8	word-
95:10			processing
112:12,18	120 - 1	week 10:18	147:7
118:13,21	128:7,10,	11:11	wording
122:10	24 129:5,	58:11	146:7
124:7,17	20 130:4,	143:1,2	words 173:17
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18 132:20	133:10	203:1	
136:3,6	134:1,14,	209:5	51:11 84:6
143:25	23 136:22	weekly 36:6	134:8
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49:14 50:2	210:19	183:4	11 103:8,
51:4 66:2,	walk 26:6		20 105:15
8 73:25		withholding	
	wanted 7:11	204:2	workers
99:21	30:21	witnesses	11:25 99:5

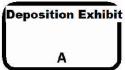
102:23 30:18 147:14 65:21 197:14,15 124:2 128:11 working 135:24 16:13 84:5 149:9 114:4 158:15 works 88:2 175:4 196:2 world 121:1 150:2 wrote 78:10 152:10 126:5 178:22 worried 175:1 Y worry 98:9 worthless year 10:17, 149:10 22 12:24 31:16 wrapping 36:15 106:10 144:22 written 14:8 **year's** 96:2 30:6 45:7 71:19 years 73:18 123:13 127:8 124:3 129:20 125:12 yesterday 126:23 7:13 175:7 132:11 208:25 140:9 170:7 Z 173:9,14 178:4 35:6 zoom 181:11 52:17 98:8 186:10,13 119:8 202:21 132:5 203:16 206:11 wrong 29:15

EXHIBIT 2

ELECTION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

TOPIC: FELONY PROCESSES







FELONY PROCESSES: WHAT'S NEW

VoterView Processes

- · Removal due to felony conviction in VoterView disabled
- Felony letter removed [disabled]

VoterScan Processes

- Removal processes now in VoterScan
- · Statewide duplicate check now checks felony conviction statewide
- New incomplete reason FELONY CONVICTION
- New "incomplete notices" felon notices (removal notice and denial notice)
- New document type Administrative List Maintenance Action Form
- New 35-day automated removal of registration due to felony conviction to align with NC felony list maintenance law

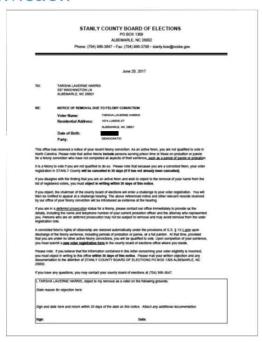
Felony reports modified on CBE Intranet

- · Felony reports refreshed daily
- · Report criteria changes
- Format changes



FELONY NOTICES

Notice of Removal due to Felony Conviction



Notice of Denial of Registration due to Felony Conviction



June 20, 2017

FELONY REMOVAL NOTICE

Sent to Existing voters

Printed from Incomplete queue

TO: TARSHA LAVERNE HARRIS 587 WASHINGTON LN

587 WASHINGTON LN ALBEMARLE, NC 28001

RE: NOTICE OF REMOVAL DUE TO FELONY CONVICTION

Voter Name: TARSHA LAVERNE HARRIS

Residential Address: 1074 LUNDIX ST

ALBEMARLE, NC 28001

Date of Birth:

DEMOCRATIC

This office has received a notice of your recent felony conviction. As an active felon, you are not qualified to vote in North Carolina. Please note that active felons **include** persons serving prison time or those on probation or parole for a felony conviction who have not completed all aspects of their sentence, <u>such as a period of parole or probation</u>.

It is a felony to vote if you are not qualified to do so. Please note that because you are a convicted felon, your voter registration in STANLY County will be cancelled in 30 days (if it has not already been cancelled).

If you disagree with the finding that you are an active felon and wish to object to the removal of your name from the list of registered voters, you must object in writing within 30 days of this notice.

If you object, the chairman of the county board of elections will enter a challenge to your voter registration. You will then be notified to appear at a challenge hearing. The above referenced notice and other relevant records received by our office of your felony conviction will be introduced as evidence at the hearing.

If you are in a <u>deferred prosecution</u> status for a felony, please contact our office immediately to provide us the details, including the name and telephone number of your current probation officer and the attorney who represented you. Persons who are on <u>deferred prosecution</u> may not be subject to removal and may avoid removal from the voter registration rolls.

A convicted felon's rights of citizenship are restored automatically under the provisions of G.S. § 13-1 only upon discharge of the felony sentence, including periods of probation or parole, Or a full pardon. At that time, provided that you are under no other active felony convictions, you will be qualified to vote. Upon completion of your sentence, you must submit a <u>new voter registration form</u> to the county board of elections office where you reside.

Please note: if you believe that the information contained in this letter concerning your voter eligibility is incorrect, you must object in writing to this office within 30 days of this notice. Please mail your written objection and any documentation to the attention of STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS PO BOX 1309 ALBEMARLE, NC 28002.

If you have any questions, you may contact your county board of elections at (704) 986-3847.

I, TARSHA LAVERNE HARRIS, object to my removal as a voter on the following grounds:

DENIAL NOTICE

Sent to new registrants in county

Printed from incomplete queue

Must be sent certified mail

June 20, 2017

TO: CHRISTOPHER FOUNTAIN 45212 BUTTERCUP FARM RD

RICHFIELD, NC 28137

RE: NOTICE OF DENIAL OF REGISTRATION DUE TO FELONY CONVICTION

Voter Name: CHRISTOPHER FOUNTAIN

Residential Address: 45212 BUTTERCUP FARM RD

RICHFIELD, NC 28137

Date of Birth:

Party: UNAFFILIATED

Pursuant to G.S. § 163-82.7(a) and (b), the Stanly County Board of Elections has determined that you are not eligible to register to vote in Stanly County. North Carolina at this time. The determination of ineligibility is based upon felony conviction records indicating that you are an active felon. The term "active felon" refers to persons serving prison time, or convicted felons who have not completed all aspects of the sentence, including completion of a period of parole or probation.

Persons who are still serving a sentence for a felony conviction and have not completed all terms of parole or probation are not qualified to vote in North Carolina; it is a felony to vote under this circumstance.

You may appeal this denial of registration within five days of receiving this notice. The appeals process for denial of registration is set in G.S. § 163-82.18, which requires that you submit a signed written notice of appeal to the Stanly County Board of Elections. The notice of appeal must include your name, date of birth, address, reasons for the appeal, and your signature.

The address for the Board of Elections is: STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS PO BOX 1309 ALBEMARLE, NC 28002

G.S. § 163-82.18. Appeal from denial of registration.

(a) Right to Appeal. - Any applicant who receives notice of denial of registration pursuant to G.S. § 163-82.7 m ay appeal the denial within five days after receipt of the notice of denial. The county board of elections shall promptly set a date for a public hearing. The notice of appeal shall be in writing and shall be signed by the appealing party, shall include the appealing party's name, date of birth, address, and reasons for the appeal.

If you are in a <u>deferred prosecution</u> status for a felony, please contact our office immediately and provide us with certain details, including the name and telephone number of your current probation officer and the attorney who represented you. Persons who are on <u>deferred prosecution</u> may not be subject to denial of registration and may avoid removal from the voter registration rolls.

LIST MAINTENANCE ACTION FORM

Used to initiate manual list maintenance activity for removal due to felony conviction

Used to cancel registration for existing voters

Section to clip and paste screenshots

Scanned into VoterScan (document type)

Available in STEPPs

BE Staff:		Date:	
ate Name		Date of Birth	
irst Name		VRN	
liddle Name		NCDL	
uffix		SSN-4	
IJr. □Sr. □I □	ı 🗆 III 🗆 IV 🗆 V		
ist Maintenance Reaso	State Felony Con Death Removed from 1		viction
ource:	-		
Report Date:			



FELONY CONVICTION REPORTS

DOC Felon County List

DOC Felon State Matching List

DOC Felony Completed List

DOC Felony Completed State Matching List

DOC Felon Search

Refreshed Daily



DOC FELON REPORTS UPDATED

The DOC Felon reports in the County Reports on the intranet have been updated.

- Felon County List-Daily report that shows the current list of persons who have an Active felony status due to conviction of a felony in a North Carolina state court. The report is available by the county in which the person was convicted of a felony (or was a resident at the time of his or her conviction). User must select county and user may select conviction month and year.
- Felon State Matching List-Daily report that shows the current list of persons who have an Active felony status due to conviction of a felony in a North Carolina state court AND who have been matched to an Active, Inactive or Temporary voter record in SEIMS. Report is available by county of voter's current registration, regardless of county of conviction. User must select county.
- Felon Completed List-Daily report that shows the current list of persons who are no longer considered to be active felons. User
 must select county, and to and from discharge dates.
- Felon Completed State Matching List-Daily report that shows the current list of persons who are no longer considered to be active felons matched to a voter record in SEIMS. List of felons who are no longer considered to be felons sent by Department of Public Safety (formerly Department of Corrections) that match to voters within SEIMS. User must select county, and to and from discharge dates. Data for this report will be refreshed daily. Data for this report will be refreshed daily.
- DOC Felon Search-On-demand report that provides a county board of elections with the ability to search the database of reported felons sent by the Department of Public Safety (formerly Department of Corrections). User must enter last name and birth date. Data for this report will be refreshed daily.

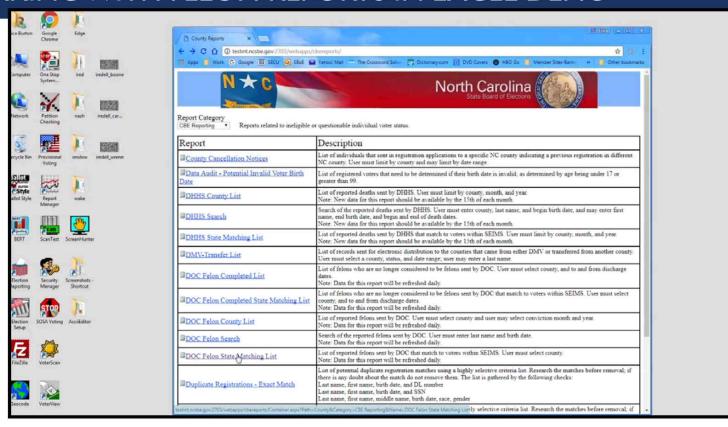


WORKING WITH FELON REPORTS IN EXCEL

- I. Access the County Reports on the intranet.
- 2. Check Felon State Matching List
 - Weekly if absentee voting has not started
 - Daily once absentee voting begins
- 3. Select county and View Report
- 4. Once report is generated, export to CSV (comma delimited) (do not choose Excel)
- 5. Report will open in Excel
 - Place cursor inside of a cell A I
 - Select CTRL + A (to select all cells with data)
 - Select "Format as Table" from the ribbon
 - Select one of the table options in Table Style Medium 1-6
 - Check "My table has headers" and select OK
- 6. When the formatted table appears, select the *Table Tools Design* tab on the ribbon (look to the far right). Make sure that *Banded Rows* is checked. (This will alternate the shading for each row.)
- 7. The DOC record will appear first for each potential SEIMS match.
- 8. Use the data in the match criteria columns to help determine if the DOC record (DOC row) matches a registered voter (SEIMS row).



WORKING WITH FELON REPORTS IN EXCEL DEMO





ADMINISTRATIVE LIST MAINTENANCE

North Carolina law does not permit persons who are currently serving a criminal sentence (either state or federal) for a felony conviction to vote. Thus, persons who are currently serving a criminal sentence for a felony conviction may not register to vote and the registration of those who *are* currently registered (active, inactive or temporary) must be *removed*.

Identify felons by:

- Checking felon reports on Intranet
- Receiving notices of felony conviction from State or Federal sources

This process has not changed. You will still use the intranet reports and notices on a regular basis to determine voters that need to be removed due to felony convictions.



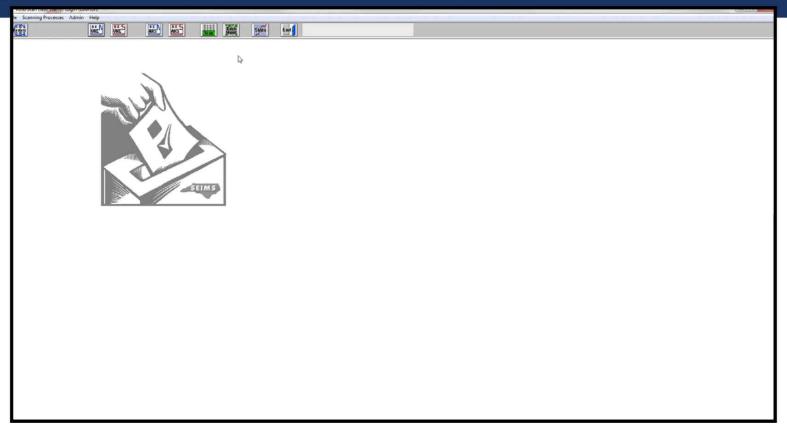
ADMINISTRATIVE LIST MAINTENANCE

Once felons are identified, process them as follows:

- 1. Search for potential felon matches in VoterView.
- 2. If a match is found, complete a List Maintenance Action Form.
- 3. Scan the List Maintenance Action Form into VoterScan and perform data entry, linking it (via Check for Existing) to an existing voter.
- 4. Save the record to the incomplete queue with a reason of FELONY CONVICTION.
- 5. Find the record in the incomplete queue and print the felony conviction notice-**Notice of Removal Due to**Felony Conviction. Mail the notice promptly by regular mail.
- 6. After 35 days, if the record has not been moved out of the VRC Incomplete queue or another incomplete reason has not been assigned, then the VoterView record status will change to Removed with a reason of FELONY CONVICTION. The VoterScan record will be moved to the VRC Archive queue.
- 7. If voter objects to removal within 30 days, change the incomplete reason to Other Reason and add "Object to Removal for Felony Conviction" to the second line and initiate a voter challenge according to GS 163-82.14(c).



ADMINISTRATIVE LIST MAINTENANCE DEMO



AUTOMATED LIST MAINTENANCE: STATEWIDE FELONY CHECK



At the time the statewide duplicate check is performed in VoterScan, which happens at the time a record is being processed out of the review queue into VoterView, the system shall run a process to identify any potential felons. For both new and existing voters (ACTIVE, INACTIVE, and TEMPORARY), the system shall compare SEIMS data with the felon data to find potential felon matches, at a statewide level, using the following criteria:

- Driver's license number and birth date; or
- First name, last name, birth date and last 4 of SSN
- If a registration is linked to an existing voter and a felon match identified by the duplicate check, the record moves to the incomplete queue with the FELONY CONVICTION reason.

Note: The system does not provide any notification that this has happened so counties will have to manually check the incomplete queue DAILY for voters moved there by the process. Search the IQ on the FELONY CONVICTION reason.

Send the Notice of Removal Due to Felony Conviction by regular mail promptly.



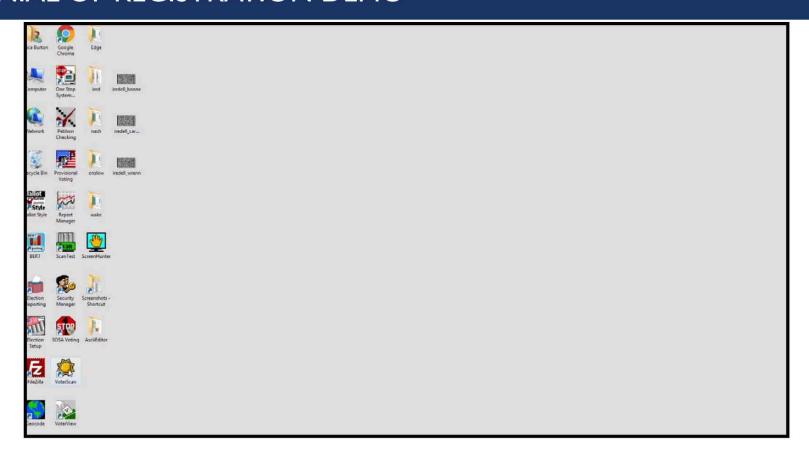
DENIAL OF REGISTRATION

Pursuant to G.S. § 163-82.7, when a county board of elections receives an application for registration, the board either: (1) shall make a determination that the applicant is not qualified to vote, or (2) shall make a tentative determination that the applicant is qualified to vote at the address given, subject to the mail verification notice procedure.

- During the statewide felony check process, if a registration is NOT linked to an existing voter and a felon match is identified, the record moves to the incomplete queue with the FELONY CONVICTION reason.
- Send the Notice of Denial of Registration due to Felony Conviction by certified mail within 2 business days.
- Felon can appeal within 5 days of receipt of Notice of Denial after signed certified mail receipt is received by county.
- If no appeal is received, the registration can be archived.
- If an appeal is received, change the incomplete reason to Other Reason with "Appeal Denial of Registration due to Felony Conviction" and set a date for the appeal hearing.



DENIAL OF REGISTRATION DEMO





VOTER OBJECTION OR APPEAL

Objection to Removal

- See GS §163-82.14
- Change incomplete reason to something other than FELONY CONVICTION before 35 days

Appeal Denial

- See GS §163-82.18
- If no appeal, then archive the registration after five
 (5) days from date of certified mail receipt.
- If appealed and the CBE challenge is sustained, archive the registration.
- If appealed and the CBE challenge is overruled, process the registration.



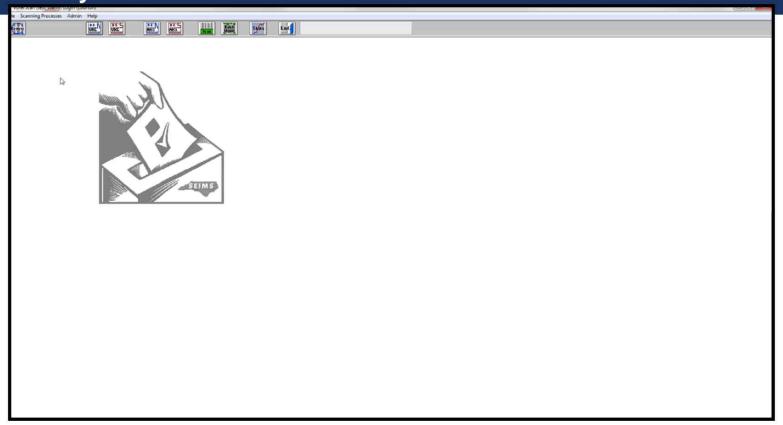
VOTER OBJECTION TO FELONY REMOVAL

Follow the process below if a felon objects to removal:

- I. Find the voter's record in the VRC Incomplete queue.
- 2. Open the record and in the Incomplete Reason select OTHER for the first line and then manually enter "Object to Removal for Felony Conviction".
- 3. Follow the procedures in STEPPs to initiate a voter challenge.

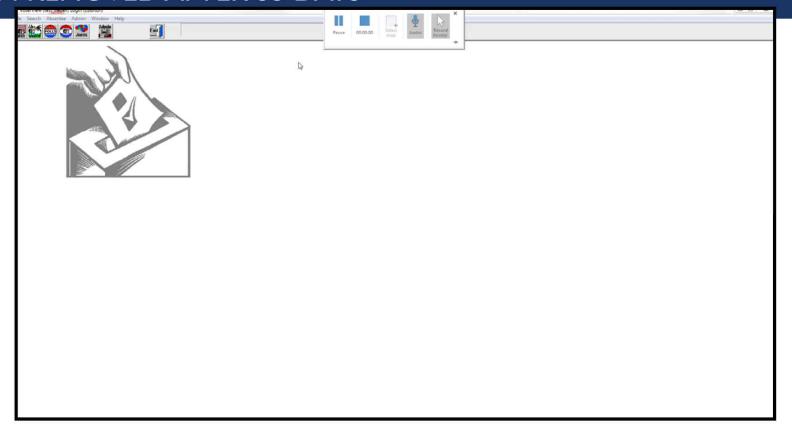


VOTER OBJECTION TO FELONY REMOVAL DEMO





FELON REMOVED AFTER 35 DAYS





FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED PROCESS

To meet the requirements of 202(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), G.S. § 163-82.11 provides the statewide voter registration database must reflect changes when a voter whose voter registration was cancelled due to a felony conviction has his or her citizenship rights restored. In order to meet these requirements, the State Board of Elections receives data from the Department of Public Safety that shows persons who have completed their felony sentence. Counties must use this information to update voter records.

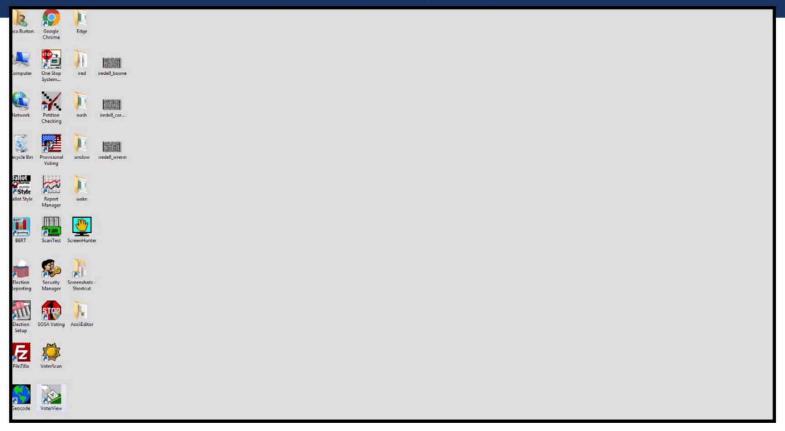
Follow the process below if it is determined that a felon has completed their sentence:

Note: You should check the FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED LIST <u>weekly</u> if absentee voting has not started and <u>daily</u> once absentee voting begins:

- I. In VoterView, search for the voter who completed his or her felony sentence.
- 2. Open the record and change the removal reason to FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED. Do NOT reactivate the voter record as they must re-register to be able to vote.
- 3. Save the changes as an administrative update.



FELONY SENTENCE COMPLETED PROCESS DEMO





FINAL NOTES

- Currently there is no way to know what felon notice will print for records in the IQ with the FELONY
 CONVICTION reason just by looking at the record in queue. Therefore, when notices are printed (more than
 one at a time), you will have to separate them into two groups and send the Removal notices via regular mail and
 the Denial notices via certified mail.
- Don't forget to check your IQ for new FELONY CONVICTION records moved there by the Statewide duplicate check. This is a completely manual process at this time.
- For any questions on the felon process not answered in this presentation, please enter a helpdesk ticket which will be directed to the Voter Services team for SEIMS questions, or the Business team for process questions. Email HelpRequest.SBOE@ncsbe.gov to enter a ticket. Please do not call staff directly, always enter a ticket.
- View the felony process information in STEPPs for more detailed information. Click this link to access the page in STEPPs. Or you can go to the main STEPPs page and then navigate to Voter Registration → List Maintenance → Felony Conviction.



THE END! LET'S ALL BE DRIVEN TO WIN!



Federal Felony Conviction Report

SBOE receives quarterly reports from the U.S. Attorney offices on persons who have been convicted of a felony crime in a United States district court. SBOE will forward these reports to the county boards of elections. County boards must then review the reports and research their voter registration records to determine if any person listed on the federal report matches a record for a registered voter (active, inactive or temporary) in their county.

Again, once a county board of election receives a notice of a felony conviction of a person who is registered to vote in the county, the county board of elections shall initiate steps to cancel the person's registration by send the voter a written notice that his voter registration will be cancelled by the board of elections within 30 days, unless the voter objects to the removal. Per the felony list maintenance process, the county board of elections must complete an List Maintenance Action Form for each voter who is identified as being an active felon. This form must be scanned into VoterScan and processed as an administrative voter registration update (source 00). Once processed and linked to the existing voter, the county must generate, print and mail the voter the removal notice. The voter will then have 30 days to object to his removal. If the voter notifies the county board of elections of his objection to the removal within 30 days of the notice, the chairman of the board of elections shall enter a voter challenge. The state or federal felony conviction notice the county board received shall be prima facie evidence for the preliminary hearing that the registrant was convicted of a felony.

State Felony Conviction Removal Process

Federal Felony Conviction Removal Process

Q: Is there an easier way to populate the List Maintenance Action Form?

A: Yes. Use a mail merge. The mail merge template is here: <u>List Maintenance</u> Action Form template.

How to Perform a Mail Merge

Felony Sentence Completed Process

To meet the requirements of 202(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), G.S. § 163-82.11 provides the statewide voter registration database must reflect changes

		Deposition Exhibit
	REGISTRATION APPLICAT	020.02
9) 9)	Are you a citizen of the Unite	ed States of America?
IF YOU CHECKED "NO" IN RESPO		JO NOT SUBMITT THIS FORM. TOO ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO VOTE
Are you at least 16 years	Will you be at least 18 years of a s of age and understand that you m ED "NO" IN RESPONSE TO BOTH OF THE YOU ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO REGIS	nust be 18 years of age on or before election day to vote? ESE AGE QUESTIONS, DO NOT SUBMIT THIS FORM. Yes No
2 Provide your full legal name.	TOOTHE ITOT GOTETIES TO TEST	3 Provide your date of birth and identification information.
Last Name	Suffix	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) State or Country of Birth
First Name		NC Driver License or NC DMV ID Number Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number
Middle Name		
		Check if you do not have a driver license or locate, check "Voter Lookup" at www.NCSBE.gov.) Social Security number.
Provide your residential address Do not enter a P.O. Box or a mail of		5 Provide a <u>mailing address</u> .
Address Number Street Name ar	nd Type	Do you receive Mailing Address Line 1
Address Line 2 (e.g., apartment, lot or o	unit number)	residential Yes No Mailing Address Line 2
	•	If "No", you are
City	State Zip Code	required to provide a mailing Address Line 3
	d at this If "No", date moved	address. City State Zip Code
	or more days?	
No Physical Address? If you do not to the right to illustrate where you the names of the nearest crossroad the map to show where you live or MPORTANT: You should also provi	normally live or sleep. Write in ds (or streets). Draw an X on usually sleep.	NORTH 1
above to permit the board of elect	•	7. Provide your choice for political party affiliation
6 Provide your demographic info	The same of the sa	Provide your choice for political party anniation.
Gender Male	African American/Black American Indian/Alaska Native	Democratic Party Libertarian Party Other Constitution Party Republican Party
Not Hispanic/Latino Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander White Other	Green Party Unaffiliated If you select a party that is not recognized in North Carolina, you will be registered as Unaffiliated.
	registered to vote in another NC co cancel your previous voter registration in	
irst Name Used in Last Registration	Middle Name Used in Last Registra	ation Last Name Used in Last Registration Suffix
Address Where You Were Last Register	ed City/Stat	te/Zip Code of Last Registration County of Last Registration
9 Provide your contact informat		ter registration. Your contact information may be disclosed as a public record.)
Area Code Phone Number	Email Address	Would you like to be contacted to be a poll worker? ☐ Yes ☐ No
10 Sign below to attest to your queraudulently or FALSELY COM		ONY UNDER CHAPTER 163 OF THE NC GENERAL STATUTES.
above; (2) I am at least 18 years of agold on the day of the general election which I intend to vote; (3) I will not vote.	e, or will be by the date of the general of the general of to vote; I shall have been a resident of ote in any other county or state after su	tood the contents of this form, that: (1) I am a United States citizen, as indicated election; or I am at least 16 years old and understand that I must be at least 18 years f North Carolina, this county, and precinct for 30 days before the date of the election in ubmission of this form and if I am registered elsewhere, I am canceling that registration convicted of a felony, I have completed my sentence, including any probation.

CSI_NCSBE_000351

Date

Signature Required

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Use this application to: (1) register to vote; (2) preregister to vote if between the ages of 16 and 17; (3) change party affiliation or unaffiliated status; (4) report a change of address within a county; or (5) report a name change.

Specific Instructions for Each Numbered Section of the Application:

- Indicate whether you are qualified to vote or preregister to vote: (1) you must be a citizen of the United States; (2) you must be at least 18 years of age, or you will be 18 years of age by the next general election and you are voting in the primary, or you must be between the ages of 16 or 17 and desire to preregister to vote; (3) you must have resided in North Carolina and in the precinct in which you present to vote for at least 30 days prior to the election; (4) you must not be currently serving a felony sentence; and (5) if previously convicted of a felony, you must have fully completed your sentence, including probation and/or parole. No special document is required.
- 2 Provide your full legal name. If your name has changed, this form will be used to update your current voter registration.
- You are required to provide your date of birth. If you have a NC driver license or non-operator's identification number, provide this number. If you do not have a NC driver license or ID card, then provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you have neither a NC driver license, NC DMV ID card or a social security number and you are registering to vote for the first time in North Carolina, attach a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address to this application.
- Provide the address of your residence (where you physically live) as of the date of your application. In this section, do not list a post office address or a location where you *only* receive mail. If you have moved to this residence within the past 30 days, provide the date of your move. If you do not have a traditional address, draw a picture in the space provided on this form of your usual sleeping location. Be descriptive and note any nearby streets or physical buildings.
- If you do not receive mail at your residential address, you must provide a mailing address.
- This section asks for your gender, race, and ethnicity. You are not required to provide this information.
- This section asks that you designate how you would like to be affiliated. You may choose to affiliate with any recognized political party in North Carolina or you may opt to be registered as *Unaffiliated*. If you are applying for new registration in the county and leave the party affiliation section blank, you will be registered as *Unaffiliated*.
- If you are currently registered in another North Carolina county or another state, please provide your name and previous address used on that prior registration. This information will be used to cancel your registration in the other county or state.
- 9 At your option, provide your phone number and email address.
- You must sign this form. Only the person applying for registration is eligible to sign (or place your mark on) this form. If you are applying for new registration in your county of residence, you must mail your original signature on this form.

National Voter Registration Act Statement: If you are submitting this application to an NVRA agency or the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles, the location or office where you submitted the application will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes. Public assistance agencies, disability services agencies, the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles, and unemployment services agencies must offer you the opportunity to register to vote at the initial application for service of assistance and during any recertification, renewal or change of address. If you decline to register to vote, the fact that you so declined will also remain confidential. If you would like help completing the voter registration application, the agency will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private and return it to the agency that provided you the form or you may mail or deliver the form to your county board of elections office.

Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance provided. If you believe that someone

Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance provided. If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the NC State Board of Elections, P.O. Box 27255, Raleigh NC 27611-7255 or you may call the agency at 1-866-522-4723.

Submitting Your Form: You must <u>mail</u> or deliver this application <u>in-person</u> with your original signature if you are registering to vote for the first time in your county of residence. If you are changing your name, address or party affiliation within your current county of registration, in addition to <u>mail</u>, you may also <u>fax</u> or <u>email</u> a scanned image of your <u>signed</u> application. If you give your signed application to another person or organization to submit on your behalf, be sure the person or organization can commit to timely submitting your application to the proper board of elections.

Voters are not currently required to provide photo ID. Federal and state courts have temporarily blocked North Carolina's voter photo ID requirement from taking effect until further order of the courts.

BOARD MAILING ADDRESSES

ALAMANCE 115 SOUTH MAPLE ST GRAHAM, NC 27253 (336) 570-6755

ALEXANDER PO BOX 326 TAYLORSVILLE, NC 28681 (828) 632-2990

ALLEGHANY PO BOX 65 SPARTA, NC 28675 (336) 372-4557

ANSON PO BOX 768 WADESBORO, NC 28170 ☎ (704) 994-3223

ASHE 150 GOVERNMENT CIR, STE 2100 JEFFERSON, NC 28640 ☎ (336) 846-5570

AVERY PO BOX 145 NEWLAND, NC 28657 ☎ (828) 733-8282

BEAUFORTPO BOX 1016
WASHINGTON, NC 27889

② (252) 946-2321

BERTIE PO BOX 312 WINDSOR, NC 27983 ☎ (252) 794-5306

BLADEN PO BOX 512 ELIZABETHTOWN, NC 28337 ☎ (910) 862-6951

BRUNSWICK PO BOX 2 BOLIVIA, NC 28422 營 (910) 253-2620

BUNCOMBE PO BOX 7468 ASHEVILLE, NC 28802 ∰ (828) 250-4200

BURKE PO BOX 798 MORGANTON, NC 28680-0798 ☎ (828) 764-9010

CABARRUS PO BOX 1315 CONCORD, NC 28026-1315 ☎ (704) 920-2860

CALDWELL PO BOX 564 LENOIR, NC 28645 ☎ (828) 757-1326

CAMDEN PO BOX 206 CAMDEN, NC 27921-0206 ☎ (252) 338-5530

CARTERET 1702 LIVE OAK ST, STE 200 BEAUFORT, NC 28516-1898 ☎ (252) 728-8460

CASWELL PO BOX 698 YANCEYVILLE, NC 27379 ☎ (336) 694-4010

CATAWBA PO BOX 132 NEWTON, NC 28658-0389 ☎ (828) 464-2424

CHATHAM PO BOX 111 PITTSBORO, NC 27312 ☎ (919) 545-8500

CHEROKEE 40 PEACHTREE ST MURPHY, NC 28906 (828) 837-6670

CHOWAN PO BOX 133 EDENTON, NC 27932 ☎ (252) 482-4010

CLAY 54 CHURCH ST HAYESVILLE, NC 28904 (828) 389-6812

CLEVELAND PO BOX 1299 SHELBY, NC 281511299 營 (704) 484-4858

COLUMBUS PO BOX 37 WHITEVILLE, NC 28472 ☎ (910) 640-6609

CRAVEN 406 CRAVEN ST NEW BERN, NC 28560 ☎ (252) 636-6610

CUMBERLAND 227 FOUNTAINHEAD LN, STE 101 FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301 ☎ (910) 678-7733

CURRITUCK PO BOX 177 CURRITUCK, NC 27929 (252) 232-2525

DARE PO BOX 1000 MANTEO, NC 27954 ∰ (252) 475-5631

DAVIDSON PO BOX 1084 LEXINGTON, NC 27293-1084 ☎ (336) 242-2190

DAVIE 161 POPLAR ST, STE 102 MOCKSVILLE, NC 27028-2225 ☎ (336) 753-6072

DUPLIN PO BOX 975 KENANSVILLE, NC 28349 營 (910) 296-2170

DURHAM PO BOX 868 DURHAM, NC 27702 ☎ (919) 560-0700

EDGECOMBE PO BOX 10 TARBORO, NC 27886 (252) 641-7852

FORSYTH 201 N. CHESTNUT ST WINSTON SALEM, NC 27101-4120 ☎ (336) 703-2800

FRANKLIN PO BOX 180 LOUISBURG, NC 27549 (919) 496-3898

GASTON PO BOX 1396 GASTONIA, NC 28053 ∰ (704) 852-6005

GATES PO BOX 621 GATESVILLE, NC 27938 (252) 357-1780

GRAHAM PO BOX 1239 ROBBINSVILLE, NC 28771 ☎ (828) 479-7969

GRANVILLE PO BOX 83 OXFORD, NC 27565-0083 ☎ (919) 693-2515

GREENE 110 SE FIRST ST SNOW HILL, NC 28580 (252) 747-5921

GUILFORD PO BOX 3427 GREENSBORO, NC 27402 ☎ (336) 641-3836

HALIFAX PO BOX 101 HALIFAX, NC 27839 ☎ (252) 583-4391

HARNETT PO BOX 356 LILLINGTON, NC 27546 (910) 893-7553

HAYWOOD 63 ELMWOOD WAY, STE A WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786 (828) 452-6633

HENDERSON PO BOX 2090 HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28793 ☎ (828) 697-4970

HERTFORD PO BOX 355

AHOSKIE, NC 27910 (252) 358-7812

HOKE PO BOX 1565 RAEFORD, NC 28376-1565 (910) 875-8751

HYDE PO BOX 152 SWAN QUARTER, NC 27885 ☎ (252) 926-4194

IREDELL 203 STOCKTON ST STATESVILLE, NC 28677 ☎ (704) 878-3140

JACKSON 876 SKYLAND DR, STE 1 SYLVA, NC 28779-2705 (828) 586-7538

JOHNSTON PO BOX 1172 SMITHFIELD, NC 27577 ☎ (919) 989-5095

JONES 367-B HWY 58-S TRENTON, NC 28585 ∰ (252) 448-3921

LEE PO BOX 1443 SANFORD, NC 27331 ∰ (919) 718-4646

LENOIR PO BOX 3503 KINSTON, NC 28502-3503 ☎ (252) 523-0636

LINCOLN 451 SALEM CHURCH RD LINCOLNTON, NC 28092 (704) 736-8480

MACON 5 WEST MAIN ST, FL 1 FRANKLIN, NC 28734 ☎ (828) 349-2034

MADISON PO BOX 142 MARSHALL, NC 28753 (828) 649-3731

MARTIN PO BOX 801 WILLIAMSTON, NC 27892 ☎ (252) 789-4317

MCDOWELL PO BOX 1509 MARION, NC 28752 ─ (828) 659-0834

MECKLENBURG PO BOX 31788 CHARLOTTE, NC 28231-1788 ☎ (704) 336-2133

MITCHELL 11 N MITCHELL AVE, RM 108 BAKERSVILLE, NC 28705 (828) 688-3101

MONTGOMERY PO BOX 607 TROY, NC 27371 ☎ (910) 572-2024

MOORE POST OFFICE BOX 787 CARTHAGE, NC 28327 (910) 947-3868

NASH PO BOX 305 NASHVILLE, NC 27856 (252) 459-1350

NEW HANOVER 230 GOVERNMENT CENTER DR, STE 38 WILMINGTON, NC 28403 ☎ (910) 798-7330

NORTHAMPTON PO BOX 603 JACKSON, NC 27845 ∰ (252) 534-5681

ONSLOW 246 GEORGETOWN RD JACKSONVILLE, NC 28540 © (910) 455-4484

ORANGE PO BOX 220 HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278 (919) 245-2350

PAMLICO PO BOX 464 BAYBORO, NC 28515 (252) 745-4821

PASQUOTANK PO BOX 1797 ELIZABETH CITY, NC 27906 營 (252) 335-1739

PENDER PO BOX 1232 BURGAW, NC 28425 (910) 259-1220

PERQUIMANS PO BOX 336 HERTFORD, NC 27944 ☎ (252) 426-5598

PERSON 331 SOUTH MORGAN ST ROXBORO, NC 27573-5223 ☎ (336) 597-1727

PITT PO BOX 56 GREENVILLE, NC 27835-0056 ☎ (252) 902-3300

POLK
PO BOX 253
COLUMBUS, NC 287℃SI_NCSBETRIS7000353

(828) 894-8181 ℃SI_NCSBETRIS7000353

RANDOLPH 1457 N. FAYETTEVILLE ST ASHEBORO, NC 27203 ☎ (336) 318-6900

RICHMOND PO BOX 1843 ROCKINGHAM, NC 28380 ☎ (910) 997-8253

ROBESON PO BOX 2159 LUMBERTON, NC 28359 ☎ (910) 671-3080

ROCKINGHAM PO BOX 22 WENTWORTH, NC 27375 ☎ (336) 342-8107

ROWAN 1935 JAKE ALEXANDER BLVD W, STE D10 SALISBURY, NC 28147 營 (704) 216-8140

RUTHERFORD PO BOX 927 RUTHERFORDTON, NC 28139 ☎ (828) 287-6030

SAMPSON120 COUNTY COMPLEX RD, STE 110 CLINTON, NC 28328

② (910) 592-5796

SCOTLAND 231 EAST CRONLY ST, STE 305 LAURINBURG, NC 28352 ☎ (910) 277-2595

STANLY PO BOX 1309 ALBEMARLE, NC 28002 ☎ (704) 986-3647

STOKES PO BOX 34 DANBURY, NC 27016 ── (336) 593-2409

SURRY PO BOX 372 DOBSON, NC 27017 營 (336) 401-8225

SWAIN PO BOX 133 BRYSON CITY, NC 28713 ☎ (828) 488-6177

TRANSYLVANIA PO BOX 868 BREVARD, NC 28712 營 (828) 884-3114

TYRRELL PO BOX 449 COLUMBIA, NC 27925 (252) 796-0775

UNION PO BOX 1106 MONROE, NC 28111-1106 ☎ (704) 283-3809

VANCE 300 S. GARNETT ST, STE C HENDERSON, NC 27536 ☎ (252) 492-3730

WAKE PO BOX 695 RALEIGH, NC 27602-0695 ☎ (919) 404-4040

WARREN PO BOX 803 WARRENTON, NC 27589 ☎ (252) 257-2114

WASHINGTON PO BOX 1007 PLYMOUTH, NC 27962-1007 ☎ (252) 793-6017

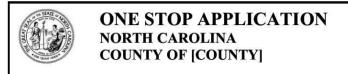
WATAUGA PO BOX 528 BOONE, NC 28607 ∰ (828) 265-8061

WAYNE 309 E. CHESTNUT ST GOLDSBORO, NC 27530 ☎ (919) 731-1411

WILKES 110 NORTH ST, RM 315 WILKESBORO, NC 28697 ☎ (336) 651-7339

WILSON PO BOX 2121 WILSON, NC 27894-2121 ☎ (252) 399-2836

YADKIN PO BOX 877 YADKINVILLE, NC 27055 ☎ (336) 849-7907



Election Dat	'e	
ection Date	е	

FRAUDULENTLY OR FALSELY COMPLETING THIS FORM IS A CLASS I FELONY UNDER CHAPTER 163 OF THE NC GENERAL STATUTES.

A Voter's Certif	ication of	Voting Quali	ficatio	ns								
Voter Name					VRN:							
Address							PF		OT:			
Mailing Address					PCT: _			V	TD:			
-				-								
I,		,	certify	y that:								
I am a United I am at least 18 For partisan p I understand the	States Citiz 8 years of a rimary electric it is a ference of the convicted	zen. age, or will be by ctions ONLY: I a	y the da am regis	te of the general electered and one time in an electered of the general electered of the convicted of	ection. d I will recent	ive a	ballot.	ace, including	Deposition G	Exhibit		
B Change or Ve	rification	of Name and	Addra	ess (Use this section	to verify or ol	nanga a v	oter's name or addre	ee in the regie	tration records)			
New Name:				(000 1110 0001011	Former Name:	amige a t	0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0	55 III III 7 7 6 15				
New Address:					Former Address:							
New Mailing Address:					Former Mailing Address:							
Have you lived here for If no, date moved?	(-)			DAYTIME PHONE NO.		that I mo	ved at least 30 days	before this ele	ection to the new a	ddress.		
Inastina Elas			1	JAYTIME PHONE NO.	X		CICNATI	JRE OF VOTER				
Inactive Flag							SIGNATO	DRE OF VOTER				
C Curbside Affice STATE OF NORTH C.			ting outs	side voting place or e	enclosure.)							
I do solemnly swear (or I am unable to enter the false statement as to n	voting plac	e to vote in person	withou	t physical assistance.	That I desire		cinct. That because of outside the voting pla		THE WASHINGTON THE SECOND	that a		
DATE X					VOTER ADDRESS X							
SIGNATURE OF VOTER							SIGNA	TURE OF PRECINC	OFFICIAL			
OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Board Appr Station	roval Date:		Board Signature: Voting Method			Voting Date/Time			V2017,04		
	Site			Transaction			Operator Name	CSRE	000405			

NC VOTING RIGHTS GUIDE:

People in the Criminal Justice System

I am currently serving a felony sentence

When you are convicted of a felony in North Carolina you cannot vote or register to vote until you have completed all the terms of your felony sentence, including any probation or parole.

Attempting to register to vote or voting while you are serving a felony sentence is a felony.

I have completed my felony sentence

Once you have completed your felony sentence or have been pardoned, you are eligible to vote and may register. You can ask your releasing officer for your *Certificate of Restoration of Forfeited Rights of Citizenship*. It is not required to register to vote, but will prove your eligibility to vote if you are challenged.

I am currently incarcerated

You may still vote when you are incarcerated, as long as you are not serving a felony sentence. When you fill out the voter registration form, your *residential address* is the address of the place where you live when not incarcerated and where you intend to return when you are released. If you do not have a residence to return to, use the address of the place where you are incarcerated. Absentee by-mail voting is available before all elections in even-numbered years and most municipal elections in odd-numbered years.

Am I eligible to vote?

- You must be 18 years old or older by the general election, or you are at least 16 years old and understand you must be 18 years old by the general election.
- You must be a U.S. citizen.
- You must not be serving an active felony sentence, including any probation or parole. No special document is required.
 - NOTE: When you are **convicted of a misdemeanor** in North Carolina, you DO NOT lose your right to vote, even if you are incarcerated.
- You must have lived in the precinct for at least 30 days before the election.

How do I register to vote?

- 1. Fill out a voter registration form at your county board of elections, public library or www.ncsbe.gov.
- 2. Sign and mail your form to the county board of elections in the county where you reside. Find county board information at www.ncsbe.gov.
- 3. Voter registration forms must be received at least 25 days before the election to vote in that election.
- 4. You will receive a voter card in the mail with your precinct and polling place.

You may also register to vote and vote on the same day at any One-Stop early voting site in your county. One-Stop information can be found before an election at www.ncsbe.gov.



For more information, please visit www.ncsbe.gov or call (866) 522-4723

Deposition Exhibit

- The person has been adjudged guilty of a felony and the person's rights of citizenship have not been restored.
- The person is dead.
- 4. The person is not a citizen of the United States.
- 5. The person is not who he or she represents himself or herself to be.
- 6. With respect to a primary or election, the person has already voted in the primary or election.
- With respect to voting in a partisan primary, the person is a registered voter of another political party.

NO RESIDENCY CHALLENGES

Special Note for Residency Challenges AND Challenges Filed Within 90 Days Before Election: Pursuant to NC Conf. of NAACP v. State Board, 1:16-CV-01274, 2018 WL 3748172 (M.D.N.C. Aug. 7, 2018), North Carolina's voter challenge statute violates federal law when a challenge is based on the voter's change of residency or non-individualized evidence within 90 days of an election:

No voter challenges based on change of residency

Do not hear a challenge or take any other action to consider a voter challenge based on a voter's change of residency. A challenge is based on change of residency, and is therefore NOT PERMITTED if the challenger alleges that the voter is not qualified because the voter has moved.

 No voter challenges based on other qualifications without individualized knowledge within the 90 days before an election

Do not hear a challenge or take any other action to consider a voter challenge that is brought without an individualized inquiry by the challenger. A challenge based on generic evidence that conveys no information about each challenged voter's specific circumstance is NOT PERMITTED. The challenger must provide reliable first-hand evidence specific to the voter challenged. Database matches do not constitute individualized evidence.

A challenge entered on the day of a primary or election shall be heard and decided by the chief judge and judges of election of the precinct in which the challenged registrant is registered before the polls are closed on the day the challenge is made. When the challenge is heard the precinct officials conducting the hearing shall explain to the challenged registrant the

5 | Third-Party Voting Site Activities

qualifications for registration and voting, and shall examine the voter as to his or her qualifications to be registered and to vote.

To vote in North Carolina: You must be a citizen of the United Are you a U.S. citizen? States. You must be at least 18 years of Are you at least 18 years of age [or will be 18 age [or will become 18 by the date by the date of the next general election]? of the next general election]. You must reside in North Carolina Please state the address where you have resided for at least 30 days as of today. and in the precinct for which you are registered and must have lived at your voting residence for at least 30 days prior to the date of this election. Are you currently on probation or parole for a You must not be currently on probation or parole for a felony felony conviction? conviction. For the purposes of this challenge hearing: Please state your name. Are you a duly registered voter of this precinct and are you the person you represent yourself to be? Please state the party for which you are affiliated. Have you voted in this election by absentee ballot at this or any other voting place?

6 | Third-Party Voting Site Activities

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE, ET AL. vs TIMOTHY K. MOORE, ET AL. Michael J. Barber, PhD on 07/29/2020

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1
                 IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
 2
                     SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
             STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF WAKE
 3
 4
                               -000-
 5
    COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE,)
 6
    et al.,
 7
                                    No. 19-cv-15941
         Plaintiffs',
 8
    v.
 9
    TIMOTHY K. MOORE, IN HIS
10
    OFFICIAL CAPACITY OF SPEAKER )
    OF THE NORTH CAROLINA
11
   HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
    et al.,
12
         Defendants.
13
14
15
16
    VIDEO CONFERENCED DEPOSITION OF MICHAEL J. BARBER, PHD
17
18
              TAKEN THROUGH HUSEBY COURT REPORTING
19
                     Taken on July 29, 2020
20
                           at 8:14 a.m.
21
22
23
24
   Reported by: Michelle Mallonee, RPR, CCR
25
```

- 1 Q. And it's possible that Alabama's felony
- 2 disenfranchisement law was enacted with racial animus,
- 3 right?
- 4 A. Yes, it is possible.
- 5 O. Same for Tennessee?
- 6 A. Possible, yes.
- 7 Q. What about Louisiana?
- 8 A. Also possible.
- 9 Q. So sitting here today, Dr. Barber, you can't
- 10 tell me which of these other states did or did not enact
- 11 their felony disenfranchisement laws for discriminatory
- 12 purposes?
- 13 A. As I said, my intent was simply to show the
- 14 current state of policy across the country.
- 0. Okay. But can you tell me which of the other
- 16 states did or did not enact their felony
- 17 disenfranchisement laws for discriminatory purposes?
- 18 A. No, I cannot.
- 19 O. Dr. Barber, is it possible that lots of states
- 20 have enacted certain types of laws that are
- 21 discriminatory?
- 22 A. Again, it's possible.
- Q. Okay. Dr. Barber, do you know how many states
- 24 in the country had a poll tax?
- 25 A. I do not know the answer to that, no.

- 1 Q. So if I told you that 45 states, including North
- 2 Carolina, had a poll tax at a given point, specifically
- 3 1923, you'd have no basis to disagree with that?
- 4 A. I have no reason to doubt that you're
- 5 representing the truth.
- 6 Q. So you'll accept my representation that 45
- 7 states, including North Carolina, had a poll tax?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And given that representation, North Carolina
- 10 was in the mainstream here, right?
- 11 A. If North Carolina was among those 45, then yes.
- 12 Q. North Carolina was among those 45.
- Given that information, North Carolina was in
- 14 the mainstream there, right?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. So does the fact that many other states had poll
- 17 taxes mean that North Carolina's poll tax was sound
- 18 public policy?
- 19 A. You know, I -- probably not. You know, going
- 20 back to, I think you said the 1920s, I think policy back
- 21 then was very different than it is now.
- 22 O. Would you say that it's sound public policy?
- A. A poll tax? No.
- O. So do you believe that North Carolina had free
- 25 and fair elections while its poll taxes were in place or

- 1 while the poll tax was in place?
- 2 A. Probably not.
- 3 Q. So the fact that lots of other states also had
- 4 poll taxes doesn't mean that North Carolina's poll tax
- 5 was consistent with the principle of free and fair
- 6 elections, right?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Dr. Barber, are you aware of how many states
- 9 allowed women to vote in all elections before the passage
- 10 of the 19th Amendment?
- 11 A. I believe it was a few. I think Utah was one of
- 12 them.
- 13 Q. So if I told you that before the passage of the
- 14 19th Amendment, a majority -- 33 to be exact -- of the
- 15 states in this country, including North Carolina, did not
- 16 allow women to vote in all elections, would you have any
- 17 basis to dispute that?
- 18 A. Nope.
- 19 O. And given that information, North Carolina was
- 20 in the mainstream there too, right?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 O. So does the fact that many other states didn't
- 23 allow women to vote in all elections mean that it was
- 24 sound public policy for North Carolina to not allow women
- 25 to vote in all elections.

- 1 A. Of course not.
- 2 Q. Do you believe that North Carolina had free and
- 3 fair elections when women weren't allowed to vote?
- 4 A. Of course not.
- 5 O. So the fact that lots of other states didn't
- 6 allow women to vote doesn't mean that North Carolina's
- 7 disenfranchisement of women was consistent with the
- 8 principle of free and fair elections, does it?
- 9 A. Of course not, no.
- 10 Q. Dr. Barber, are you aware of how many states
- 11 require literacy tests to vote?
- 12 A. No, I'm not. I mean, I know that there are
- 13 states that require literacy tests. But the exact
- 14 number, I don't know.
- 0. Dr. Barber, if I told you that half the states
- 16 in the country, including North Carolina, required a
- 17 literacy test as a qualification for voting prior to
- 18 1965, would you have any basis to dispute that?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. And given that representation, North Carolina
- 21 was in the mainstream there as well, right?
- 22 A. That would be correct.
- Q. And does the fact that many other states
- 24 required a literacy test as a qualification for voting
- 25 mean that it was sound public policy for North Carolina

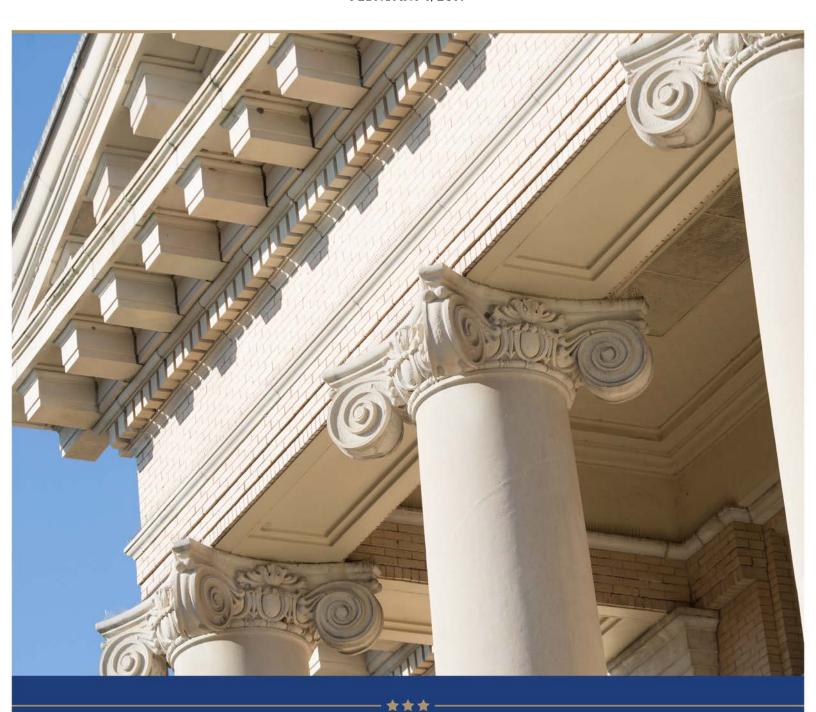
- 1 to require a literacy test?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Dr. Barber, do you believe that North Carolina
- 4 had free and fair elections when we required a literacy
- 5 test as a qualification for voting?
- 6 A. No, of course not.
- 7 Q. So the fact that lots of other states required a
- 8 literacy test doesn't mean that North Carolina's
- 9 disenfranchisement of people who were unable to read was
- 10 consistent with the principle of free and fair elections,
- 11 right?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. Dr. Barber, do you know how many states banned
- 14 interracial marriage at some point in the 20th century?
- 15 A. I don't know.
- 16 Q. And, Dr. Barber, if I told you that as of 1948,
- 17 a majority -- 39 states to be exact -- in this country,
- 18 including North Carolina, banned interracial marriage,
- 19 would you have any reason to dispute that?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 O. And North Carolina was, once again, in the
- 22 mainstream, right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- O. And does the fact that many other states banned
- 25 interracial marriage mean that North Carolina's ban on

- 1 interracial marriage was sound public policy?
- 2 A. No, of course not.
- Q. Does it mean that North Carolina's ban on
- 4 interracial marriage was consistent with principles of
- 5 equality?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. So, Dr. Barber, isn't it fair to say that a
- 8 state can be in the mainstream and still enact laws that
- 9 are discriminatory?
- 10 A. Yes, that's certainly true.
- 11 O. So North Carolina's current disenfranchisement
- 12 law related to people convicted of felonies could be in
- 13 the mainstream and still be discriminatory, right?
- 14 A. That's certainly possible.
- 15 O. So let's go back to page 27 of your report -- I
- 16 say go back, but it's still on the screen -- where you
- 17 say that "North Carolina falls nearly" in the middle --
- 18 I'm sorry, "nearly exactly in the middle of the
- 19 distribution, "meaning, "23 states have a lower rate and
- 20 26 states have a higher rate of disenfranchisement than
- 21 North Carolina."
- You're asserting this, correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 O. And your assertion is based on the data in
- 25 Figure 9 in the Table 2 beginning on page 29. And I'll



2019 REPORT ON CRIMINAL COST WAIVERS G.S. 7A-350

Prepared by NORTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS FEBRUARY 1, 2019



About the North Carolina Judicial Branch The mission of the North Carolina Judicial Branch is to protect and preserve the rights and liberties of all the people as guaranteed by the Constitutions and laws of the United States and North Carolina by providing a fair, independent and accessible forum for the just, timely and economical resolution of their legal affairs. **About the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts** The mission of the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts is to provide services to help North Carolina's unified court system operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads, and available resources.

INTRODUCTION

N.C.G.S. 7A-350 requires the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) to report on criminal cost waivers. Specifically, G.S. 7A-350 provides as follows:

§ 7A-350. Annual report on criminal court cost waivers.

The Administrative Office of the Courts shall maintain records of all cases in which a judge makes a finding of just cause to grant a waiver of criminal court costs under G.S. 7A-304(a) and shall report on those waivers to the chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees on Justice and Public Safety and the chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety by February 1 of each year. The report shall aggregate the waivers by the district in which the waiver or waivers were granted and by the name of each judge granting a waiver or waivers.

NCAOC respectfully submits this report pursuant to the legislative mandate.

REPORT PARAMETERS

NCAOC completed statewide implementation of the case disposition component of the Criminal Case Information System, Clerk Component (CCIS-CC version 5.5) in December 2014, and all counties used this new CCIS-CC component beginning with calendar year 2015. This report includes reported money statuses from CCIS-CC during calendar year 2018.

NCAOC is responsible for providing recordkeeping guidelines, training and support to the state's trial courts. During the initial statewide use of the new case disposition component, system users requested additional clarification and guidelines regarding appropriate selection of criminal court money statuses. NCAOC Court Services Division, after consultation with clerks and relevant NCAOC divisions, issued a memorandum identifying working definitions of the available codes and providing guidance as to when to use a specific code. That memorandum, issued on March 31, 2015, provided the definitions of money statuses detailed in the next section of this report.

The money statuses include Waived/Remitted, Partially Waived, Not Assessed, Stricken/Entered in Error, and Civil Judgment. The attached Table 1 includes criminal court money statuses by county, while Table 2 includes criminal court money statuses by judge. All of these money status codes are presented in Table 1 and Table 2 to provide all relevant available data, although there may be some slight variation in uses among the counties. The number of cases in which costs were "Ordered" is included to provide a sense of volume of the dispositions in each county (Table 1) or by each judge (Table 2) in which costs, fees, or fines were ordered and no cost, fine, or fee line items were reduced or eliminated.



CRIMINAL COURT MONEY STATUSES

Criminal court money statuses are either generated by CCIS-CC or entered by a clerk. When a defendant pleads guilty or is convicted, based on the convicted offense, CCIS-CC enters most applicable costs, fees, and fines as "Ordered." If any individual cost, fee, or fine is reduced or eliminated, a criminal court monetary status other than "Ordered" must be entered. Based on the order of the presiding judge, the clerk enters changes to the presumptive amounts and enters an applicable money status. The working definitions for money statuses available in CCIS-CC are set forth below.

Ordered: This money status is used when the court orders a monetary obligation due. Ordered is the default money status. If the judge is silent on the issue, then, based on case type or status, Ordered should be used.

Waived/Remitted: This money status is used when the judge waives or remits an individual monetary obligation in its entirety. It is used at a subsequent modification hearing if at the time of the hearing the original monetary obligation is unpaid in its entirety and the judge orders it remitted in its entirety.

Note: The Waived/Remitted money status should not be confused with waivers of appearance, which sometimes are referred to as "waived," "waiver," or "waivable offenses." A waiver of appearance is a defendant's election to plead guilty or admit responsibility in writing in lieu of appearing in court. It is available in limited circumstances as prescribed by the Conference of District Court Judges pursuant to G.S. 7A-148.

Partially Waived: This money status is used when a monetary obligation is reduced but not eliminated. A common example of Partially Waived is when a judge orders probation revoked, activates the suspended sentence, and waives what remains of each cost still owing. In this case, the partial waiver status is used for each line item where money still is owed.

Not Assessed: This money status is used when a fee that should not be assessed appears in the Bill of Costs. An example of the proper use of Not Assessed would be the determination by the presiding judge not to assess an additional \$250.00 for a subsequent assignment to community service because defendant was previously assigned to community during the same session of court. See G.S. 143B-708(c).

Stricken/Entered in Error: This money status is used when a monetary obligation was recorded in error. It should be used for monetary obligations that would not have accrued but for the error.

Civil Judgment: This money status is used when the judge orders the monetary obligations due through civil rather than criminal enforcement — i.e., the court has ordered that all money obligations due are due through civil enforcement mechanisms only. A civil judgment gives the state an indirect means of collecting the obligation.

Note: If the court elects to simultaneously order monetary obligations due criminally and civilly, then the clerk should use the Ordered status rather than the Civil Judgment.



In compiling data for Tables 1 and 2, NCAOC Research, Policy, and Planning Division developed a hierarchy for money statuses in the following order: Partially Waived, Not Assessed, Stricken/Entered in Error, Civil Judgment, and Waived/Remitted. For example, if a case has both a "Not Assessed" and a "Partially Waived" money status entered, that case would be counted as a case with a "Partially Waived" money status. This hierarchy used in the current report differs from the hierarchy in previous years' reports; therefore, direct comparisons are not advisable. The change was made to align the meaning of the "Waived" category with a common expectation that the "Waived" category indicates cases where all financial obligations are waived.

Table 2 contains data by judge on number of cases with criminal court money statuses that are entered with one or more money line items reduced or eliminated. The number of cases where costs were "Ordered" is also included to provide a sense of volume of the dispositions of each judge in which costs, fees, or fines were ordered and no cost, fine, or fee line item was reduced or eliminated. The names listed in Table 2 reflect the names entered in the judge field of CCIS-CC, which captures the presiding judicial official at the event (judge, magistrate, or clerk). The significant number of "Missing/Unknown" judges is likely because of two possible scenarios. First, dispositions entered in ACIS did not require entry of a judge, so any modifications to judgments entered in ACIS would not have required a judge name to be entered. Second, disposition of infractions entered into CCIS-CC do not require entry of a judge name.

The totals in Table 2 are higher than those in Table 1 because Table 1 reflects a count of cases with a money status by hierarchical order, while Table 2 indicates the number of events in which a judge entered an order with a money status indicator.

SUMMARY

NCAOC has established six codes to reflect the status of monetary obligations in criminal cases. This report includes information on criminal court money statuses by county and by judge for calendar year 2018.



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TABLE 1

Criminal Case Money Statuses by County Calendar Year 2018



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Table 1: Criminal Case Money Statuses by County, Calendar Year 2018							
				Stricken/			Ordered
		Partially	Not	Entered	Civil		(Not
County	Waived	Waived	Assessed	in Error	Judgment		Waived)
ALAMANCE	944	0	50	893	689		13,365
ALEXANDER	97	0	40	227	380		2,597
ALLEGHANY	84	0	11	21	52		1,146
ANSON	245	0	45	360	99		4,041
ASHE	26	0	166	43	101		1,459
AVERY	8	0	9	31	36		1,780
BEAUFORT BERTIE	322	0	97	87	194		7,382
	111	1	115	40	20		3,014
BLADEN	2	0	167	101	390		7,288
BRUNSWICK	178	3	322	444	1,003		9,766
BUNCOMBE	190	0	450	808	991		11,806
BURKE	25	0	135	171	1,333		8,499
CABARRUS	186	0	794	498	2,460		28,091
CALDWELL	38	0	173	57	1,132		6,376
CAMDEN	0	0	1	11	0		1,986
CARTERET	189	0	78	203	305		6,945
CASWELL	53	0	46	44	116		2,282
CATAWBA	199	1	2,044	257	1,072		10,656
CHATHAM	459	46	32	120	71		6,489
CHEROKEE	28	0	0	50	35		2,851
CHOWAN	11	0	24	6	0		667
CLAY	9	0	30	23	3		951
CLEVELAND	1,187	0	57	216	589		9,710
COLUMBUS	84	0	66	279	714		8,278
CRAVEN	228	13	330	335	63		10,368
CUMBERLAND	943	16	780	349	1,399		16,679
CURRITUCK	8	0	21	67	0		6,221
DARE	114	0	30	209	3		8,985
DAVIDSON	153	1	415	569	1,623		12,766
DAVIE	71	0	8	57	156		4,835
DUPLIN	104	16	108	393	294		7,737
DURHAM	1,174	0	1,986	815	898		9,723
EDGECOMBE	414	0	40	192	293		6,518
FORSYTH	3,423	6	452	642	1,141		32,197
FRANKLIN	127	7	158	51	248		4,500
	12/	<u>'</u>	130) J I	240		7,300



Table 1: Criminal Case Money Statuses by County, Calendar Year 2018							
		Partially	Not	Stricken/ Entered	Civil		Ordered (Not
CASTON	Waived	Waived	Assessed	in Error	Judgment		Waived)
GASTON	701	4	101	390	2,028		14,585
GATES	30	0	1	17	0		768
GRAHAM	23	0	1	14	1		572
GRANVILLE	122	0	74	65	263		3,720
GREENE	10	0	73	48	63		2,134
GUILFORD	2,309	10	4,224	650	2,007		43,214
HALIFAX	368	3	157	247	205		4,362
HARNETT	164	2	345	547	683		8,043
HAYWOOD	46	0	319	172	177		6,987
HENDERSON	57	2	398	63	134		10,957
HERTFORD	40	0	147	124	1		2,150
HOKE	143	0	73	204	130		3,120
HYDE	2	0	16	8	24		684
IREDELL	349	9	1,888	885	745		19,473
JACKSON	33	0	117	103	169		4,288
JOHNSTON	327	0	268	893	986		20,383
JONES	18	4	68	101	9		3,711
LEE	93	0	185	167	446		4,401
LENOIR	54	0	187	127	253		7,050
LINCOLN	535	0	27	73	291		8,701
MACON	107	0	26	77	23		3,236
MADISON	2	0	60	52	35		3,312
MARTIN	97	1	74	203	60		6,439
MCDOWELL	70	5	112	43	903		6,618
MECKLENBURG	2,500	112	2,603	459	1,117		38,534
MITCHELL	7	0	47	37	28		1,013
MONTGOMERY	3	0	87	104	261		4,908
MOORE	33	0	325	453	147		8,793
NASH	482	2	30	51	8		10,882
NEW HANOVER	1,184	12	108	271	760		15,824
NORTHAMPTON	41	0	34	45	0		1,373
ONSLOW	517	1	945	749	584		20,905
ORANGE	1,061	11	146	375	55		15,587
PAMLICO	16	0	20	29	153		972



Table 1: Criminal Case Money Statuses by County, Calendar Year 2018							
County	Waived	Partially Waived	Not Assessed	Stricken/ Entered in Error	Civil Judgment		Ordered (Not Waived)
PASQUOTANK	15	0	93	55	45		3,550
PENDER	46	0	83	102	155		5,391
PERQUIMANS	7	0	9	35	12		2,130
PERSON	102	0	155	228	316		4,193
PITT	337	2	157	741	1,155		11,674
POLK	1	0	133	33	19		3,557
RANDOLPH	37	14	862	315	522		22,013
RICHMOND	128	0	143	165	364		5,200
ROBESON	178	1	1,579	667	440		13,753
ROCKINGHAM	213	0	156	260	925		9,915
ROWAN	157	1	1,009	281	87		16,174
RUTHERFORD	27	4	429	108	258		6,601
SAMPSON	349	49	46	321	362		8,256
SCOTLAND	73	0	148	96	193		3,296
STANLY	136	0	40	178	356		6,987
STOKES	86	0	130	48	207		3,839
SURRY	155	1	122	111	658		6,763
SWAIN	64	0	13	46	3		2,197
TRANSYLVANIA	10	0	3	57	8		2,423
TYRRELL	25	2	43	27	12		3,857
UNION	215	0	334	822	940		15,165
VANCE	248	0	76	120	374		5,413
WAKE	1,307	1	2,146	1,344	1,212		56,872
WARREN	22	0	65	48	106		1,754
WASHINGTON	22	0	10	35	14		2,351
WATAUGA	15	0	52	29	136		5,511
WAYNE	187	1	608	425	644		11,931
WILKES	441	0	361	249	76		9,270
WILSON	356	22	10	62	366		6,925
YADKIN	97	6	22	65	228		4,220
YANCEY	2	0	18	49	5		1,541
TOTAL	28,036	392	31,621	23,637	40,850		848,375



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TABLE 2

Criminal Case Money Statuses by Judge Calendar Year 2018



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Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived Assessed **Judgment** in Error Waived) ABERNATHY, G, WAYNE ABERNETHY, RICHARD, B ADAMS, GALE, M ADAMSON, DAVID, J ALBRIGHT, R, STUART ALDRIDGE, EDWARD, E ALDRIDGE, THOMAS, V ALEXANDER, KAREN, A ALFORD, BENJAMIN, G ALLEN, BRADLEY, R 4.157 ALLEN, CLAUDE, JR. ALLEN, JASPER, B ALLEN, STANLEY, L ALLOWAY, SHERRY, F AMMONS, JAMES, F, JR. ANDERSON, CHARLES, T ANDERSON, R, E ANTONELLI, JULIE, B ARCHIE, CARLA ATKINSON, THOMAS, T, JR. AUSTIN, KYLE, D AYCOCK, DAVID, WOODALL 1,188 AYCOCK, EDWIN, B BADDOUR, PHILIP, A BADDOUR, PHILIP, A, III BADDOUR, R, ALLEN, JR. BAGGETT, TALMAGE, S 1,820 BAGGS, WILLIAM, W BAILEY, KRIS, D 1,434 BAILEY, SARAH, PATTERSON BAKER, TYYAWDI, M BALOG, STEVE, A BANKS, J, HENRY BANKS-PRINCE, CAMILLE



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived Assessed **Judgment** in Error Waived) BANNER-LYERLY, ROBERT, A BARBER, WADE BARKLEY, WESLEY, W BARNES, EDGAR, L 1,217 BARNES, KENNETH, CARL BARNETTE, HENRY, V BARRETT, SHARON, TRACEY BARRINGTON, DAVID, M BARROW, TAMMY, L 2,805 BASS, JAMES, A, III BATEMAN, JOSEPH, J BATTAGLIA, FREDERICK, S BAXLEY, GROVER, C BEAL, BEVERLY, T BEAN, C, CHRISTOPHER BEDSWORTH, GEORGE, A BELL, JAMES, G BELL, LISA, C BELL, WILLIAM, R BENNETT, VICKY, T BEST, KIMBERLY, Y BIBEY, STEPHEN, A 4,332 BICKETT, ROY, MARSHALL, JR. 2,411 BILLIPS, MICHAEL, H BLACK, KELVIN, D BLACKMORE, REBECCA, W BLAKE, ARETHA, VENYKE BLAND, WILLIAM, W BLICK, JOSEPH, A, JR. BLOUNT, MARVIN, K, III BLOUNT, STEPHEN, M BOGER, WILLIAM, J BONER, RICHARD, D BOONE, MARION 1,472



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived **Assessed Judgment** in Error Waived) BOUSMAN, MONICA, M BOWDITCH, KRISTEN BOWERS, SCOTT BOYETTE, WAYNE, S BRACKETT, JUSTIN, KYLE BRADDY, GEORGE, G BRADFORD, JAMES, M BRADY, BOB BRADY, ROBERT, M BRAGG, CHRISTOPHER, W BRAHMER, KATLYN, L BRANCH, BRENDA, GREEN BRANNON, DAVID, S BRANNON, HILLARY, D BRANTLEY, DAVID, B BRANTLEY, JACLYN, B BRAY, SUSAN, E BREWER, JACQUELINE, L BREWER, SCOTT, T 1,093 BRIDGES, FORREST, D BRIDGES, KEVIN, M BRIDGES, LAURA, J BRITT, JOHN, M BRITTAIN, THOMAS, M BROOKS, ALICIA, D BROOKS, ATHENA, FOX BROOKS, WILLIAM, F 1,816 BROOME, COLLEEN, P 6,376 BROUGHTON, THOMAS, B BROWN, ANTHONY, W BROWN, BETTY, J BROWN, CHARLES, E 1,698 BROWN, CHARLIE, D BROWN, CHARLOTTE, D



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived Assessed **Judgment** in Error Waived) BROWN, DANIEL, LOUIS BROWN, DEBORAH, P 1.126 BROWN, JAY, K BROWN, LARRY, D, JR. BROWN, RICHARD, T BRYAN, JAY, T 3,946 BRYANT, ROBERT, W BRYANT, STEVEN, J BUCKNER, JOE, M 5,763 BULLARD, EDWARD, J BULLOCK, STAFFORD, G BUNDY, CHRISTINA, L BURCH, SUSAN, R BURKE, L, TODD BURKE, TERESA, A BURNETT, HELENA, M BURNETTE, CAROLINE, S 1,237 BURNETTE, SARAH, KATHERINE BYRD, DAVID, V 3,142 CABE, SAMANTHA, HYATT 4,301 CALDWELL, JESSE, B, III CAMERON, WILLIAM, M 1,746 CAMPBELL, HUGH, B CANADY, RANDY CANNON, JESSICA, L CANTRELL, TIMOTHY, C CARMICAL, JAMES, S CARPENTER, JEFFERY, K CARRAWAY, LONNIE, W CARROLL, JOHN, J, III CARTER, JOHN, B, JR. CATHEY, SAM CAYTON, DARRELL, B 1,537 CHAPMAN, RONALD, L



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived **Assessed Judgment** in Error Waived) CHASSE, ERIC, C 1,294 CHEEK, JASON CHEEK, WILLIAM, D CHERRY, BURFORD, A CHRISTIAN, LORI, G CHURCH, HARRY, T 2,184 CLARK, BROOKE, LOCKLEAR 1,035 CLARK, ROBERT, A CLAWSON, STEVEN, L CLEMENTS, CAROLYN, K CLONINGER, DAVID, B 1,300 CLONTZ, EDWIN, DUANE 1,033 COATES, PHILLIP, E COBB, DAVID, A COBB, W, ALLEN, JR. COGBURN, STEVEN, D COLE, J, CARLTON COLLIER, CHRISTOPHER, M COLLINS, CRAIG, R 1,113 COLLINS, G, BRYAN, JR. CONSTANGY, H, WILLIAM CONWAY, BRUCE, A COOPER, PELL, C CORBETT, ALBERT, A CORNELIUS, C, P CORPENING, JULIUS, H, II 1,387 COSTNER, GREGORY, S COUNCILMAN, KELLY, R COVINGTON, MARY, F 2,014 COVOLO, JOHN, J COWAN, EMILY, GREENE COWARD, WILLIAM, H COX, TIFFANY, G 5,866 CRABBE, DAVID, L



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived **Entered** (Not Waived **Assessed Judgment** in Error Waived) CRAIG, JOHN, O, III CRAWFORD, GEOFFREY, C CRAWFORD, SOPHIA CREED, DON, W 4,236 CROMER, ANDERSON, D CROOM, CLAUDIA, C CROOM, CRAIG CROSSWHITE, JOSEPH, N CROUCH, MELINDA, H CROW, KENNETH, F CRUMP, AVERY, L CRUMPTON, ROB 2,043 CUBBAGE, LORA, CHRISTINE CULLER, JENA, P CUMMINGS, MARK, T CURETON, DONALD, RAY CURTIS, DAVID, A CUTCHIN, TONIA, A DANIELS, JUDITH, M DARDEN, WILLIAM, R DAVIDIAN, WOOFER, A, III DAVIS, AMBER DAVIS, CHESTER, C DAVIS, DANNY, E DAVIS, J, THOMAS DAVIS, JACOB, A DAVIS, JOHN DAVIS, JOHN, T DAVIS, JOHN, W DAVIS, JONATHAN, C DAVIS, LINDSAY, R DAVIS, RICHARD, RUSSELL 1,304 DAVIS, RUSSELL DAVIS, TODD



Stricken/ Ordered Civil Partially Not **Judge Name** Waived (Not **Entered** Waived **Assessed Judgment** in Error Waived) DAVIS, WILLIAM, B 1,207 DEESE, DALE, G 1.088 DELLINGER, J, GARY DENNING, MICHAEL, JOSEPH DESOTO, WILLIAM, BRIAN 1,178 DEVINE, JAMES, T DEVINE, M, PATRCIA DISBROW, JASON, C 2,587 DIXON, BETH, S 1,953 DORSETT, JEFFREY, R DOUGHTON, RICHARD, L DUCKWORTH, CHRISTOPHER, E DUKE, W, RUSSELL, JR. DUNCAN, MICHAEL, D DUNHAM, PRISCILLA, D DUNSTON, ASHLEIGH, PARKER EADY-WILLIAMS, KAREN EAGLES, MARGARET, PHILLIPS EARWOOD, KRISTINA, LYNN 1,911 EASON, BYNUM, C EDDINGER, KEVIN, G 2,196 EDGERTON, JEFFREY, R EDWARDS, C, THOMAS EGGERS-GRYDER, REBECCA, E ELLIOTT, SHERRI, W ELLIS, BRANDON, R ELLIS, BRAXTON, C ELLIS, KEVIN, D ENOCHS, WENDY, M ERVIN, ROBERT, C ETHERIDGE, SCOTT, C 4,077 EVANS, PATRICIA, D EVANS, YVONNE, M EVERETT, WILLIAM, L



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