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THE STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona
July 19, 2018
9:31 a.m.

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| pUBLIC MEETING BEFORE THE CItIZENS CLEAN <br> ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 9:31 a.m. on July 19, 2018, at the State of Arizona, Clean Elections <br> Commission, 1616 West Adams, Conference Room, Phoenix, <br> Arizona, in the presence of the following Board members: <br> Mr . Damien R. Meyer, Chairperson <br> Mr. Mark S. Kimble <br> Ms. Amy B. Chan <br> Mr . Galen D. Paton <br> OTHERS PRESENT: <br> Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director <br> Paula Thomas, Executive Officer <br> Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director <br> Mike Becker, Policy Director <br> Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager <br> Stephanie Cooper, Executive Support Specialist <br> Mary O'Grady, Osborn Maledon <br> Kara Karlson, Assistant Attorney General <br> Rivko Knox, Az League of Women Voters <br> Morgan Dick, AZAN <br> Talei Hornback, RIESTER <br> Tricia Kashima, RIESTER <br> Christina Borrego, RIESTER <br> Ryan Wheelock, RIESTER <br> $J P$ Twist, Ducey for Governor <br> Sara Mueller, Ducey for Governor <br> Zack Dean, Senate <br> Jeffrey Ong, Senate | 1 And I'm assuming we don't have Commissioner <br> 2 Titla on the phone. No one is on the phone. <br> 3 Correct, Tom? <br> 4 MS. THOMAS: That is -- no. We're good. <br> 5 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Thank you. <br> 6 Next item, Item III on the agenda: <br> 7 Discussion and possible action on the executive director's report. <br> 9 Tom? <br> 10 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Chairman, <br> Commissioners, I'll try to make this as quick as possible. <br> I want to -- first, you know, you see all <br> the activity going on in voter education. So I want to give a big shot out to Gina and Alec and Stephanie for their work. <br> 17 Next week we've got the pilot program that <br> 18 initiated from Commissioner -- Commissioner Paton. <br> 19 We'll be having forums or debates at Sahuarita, Sahuaro <br> 20 and Empire High Schools in Tucson. We're excited about <br> 21 that. We think that's a good opportunity to connect <br> 22 with the community and connect with -- with folks. <br> 23 You'll see that Gina presented at the <br> 24 American Indian Right to Vote Conference last week, and <br> 25 Alec will be out at the Municipal Clerks Association |
| ```09:31:02-09:31:52 PROCEEDING CHAIRMAN MEYER: All right. Good morning. We're going to call to order the meeting of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission noticed for July 19 at 9:30 a.m. The next -- the first item on the agenda is discussion and possible action on Commission minutes for the June 28th, 2018 meeting. Any comments on the minutes or motions? COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? CHAIRMAN MEYER: Commissioner Kimble. COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I move we approve the minutes of the June 28th, 2018 meeting. CHAIRMAN MEYER: Is there a second? COMMISSIONER CHAN: I second that motion. CHAIRMAN MEYER: We have a motion to approve the minutes for the June 28th meeting. It has been first and seconded. All if favor say aye. (Chorus of ayes.) CHAIRMAN MEYER: Any opposition? (No response.) CHAIRMAN MEYER: The motion carries unanimously.``` | 1 meeting. <br> 2 We've also, this year -- for many years <br> 3 we've been asked to sponsor the Meet the Candidates <br> 4 event that the "Arizona Capitol Times" puts on, and <br> 5 we've -- we have previously declined because the event <br> 6 was -- required people to pay. We were able to <br> 7 negotiate with them to become the biggest sponsor and, <br> 8 in return, there's no charge. So the public can <br> actually come and meet the candidates. <br> So that's, again, a bit of a pilot program. <br> We'll see how it works. I know some -- I know it does <br> get attended by folks. The reason we've always <br> objected to sponsoring with the charge is because it's <br> really not -- it doesn't make it a good voter event -- <br> voter education event if, you know, folks have to pay <br> to get in, but we -- we're trying that this year. So <br> we're excited about that. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: I have a question. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. Yes. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: So are those statewide <br> candidates? Are there -- <br> 22 MR. COLLINS: All candidates are invited <br> 23 from all over the state, and my understanding is they <br> 24 get fairly good attendance of candidates. What our <br> 25 hope is is if this is something that works, it's |


possible action on the Clean Elections Voter Education and matters relating to informing public of debates.
3 Tom?
4 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, so we wrote this agenda item a little bit broadly to make sure that we could capture as much of discussion as you and others wanted to have about this, but first of all, the genesis of this is a Google AdWords ad that said to the effect of watch Governor Ducey defend his record.
And after Governor Ducey had, first of all, declined to participate in the debate, it ran after that. And, second of all, it had some language that that language was -- you know, had an antagonistic quality and, indeed, the ad had the wrong primary date.

So I want to, first off, just on behalf of
the Commission staff and myself, really, actually,
personally, you know, apologize for the ad content into
the -- Governor Ducey's campaign. We did not intend
for and try very hard, in fact, not to have our Voter
Education Program cross over into actual candidate, you
know, issues. So I apologize for that. That's my
responsibility, and that really -- that buck on the
Voter Education Program stops with me.
What we have asked our ad company, or the
25 company that has our voter education purchase order,

RIESTER, to do is pull together as much information as we could. We have a timeline I was unable to get a chance to print that shows you the time of how this worked, but I can go over it very -- I just want to go over that really quickly before -- oh, you have it? You have copies?
7 Okay. Can you -- well, you can bring --
8 MS. BORREGO: Finish up.
9 MR. COLLINS: Okay. Basically, we were 10 contacted by the governor's campaign general counsel on, I think, a Thursday night. I contacted Gina that night. Gina contacted RIESTER that night. By the next morning, we had -- we had a preliminary answer by midnight. We had some more specific and a little bit more detailed answers by 8:00 o'clock. That morning we got a stop on the ad as soon as possible. I think that very night, it stopped. RIESTER, working with Google, to get it stopped.

We worked -- we asked some additional questions of RIESTER, which are in the formal memo that is in your packet, and we have provided all that information in real time to both you as commissioners and to Governor Ducey's campaign, pursuant to their
24 request. And so we have -- we think we've -- we think 25 we've caught up with things, and I think -- more

1 importantly, I think that we'll be talking about, you
2 know, making sure that we have -- we have all the
3 checks and balances in place that we need to make sure
4 that our stated objectives are met. And that's
5 something, I think, RIESTER agrees with.
6 RIESTER has several representatives here.
7 I think Christina Borrego is going to speak -- was
8 going to give a brief presentation on RIESTER and take
9 her questions. And then -- and, Mr. Chairman, if I
10 may, after Christina completes her statement, I thought
11 it might be a good time for the commissioners to ask 12 questions.
13 And then I also want to note that after
14 that, the Governor's campaign has been generous enough
15 to take time out of the campaign to have the Campaign
16 Manager JP Twist and Deputy Campaign Manger Sara
17 Mueller here, and I think one or both of them were
18 going to -- are going to speak.
19 So I thought we'd go Christina, questions,
20 and then to the Governor's -- Governor's campaign
21 manager, if that works for you, Mr. Chairman.
22 CHAIRMAN MEYER: It works for me.
23 Ms. Borrego.
24 MS. BORREGO: Yes. Thank you, Chairman.
25 Thank you, Commissioners. I do have a copy of the

1 timeline.
2 Would you like me to hand that to you to 3 hand out?
4 MR. COLLINS: That will be perfect.
5 MS. BORREGO: So as that's being passed
6 out, first of all, RIESTER is not accustomed to this
7 type of attention. We are a very standup shop and work
8 very hard on behalf of many clients in the state and
9 regionally.
10 So on behalf of RIESTER, I would like to
11 officially apologize. We have tremendous respect for
12 the Citizens Corporation Commission -- Citizens --
13 excuse me -- Citizens Clean Election Commission --
14 wrong campaign -- its leaders and its important role in
15 our community. We are deeply sorry about our
16 employee's mistake that caused this incident.
17 Upon being made aware of this incorrect ad,
18 our firm acted immediately and swiftly. In fact, our
19 actions are testament to how seriously we took this
20 situation.
21 By now you've had the opportunity to read
22 the memorandum in your -- in your meeting packets that
23 provides answers to questions posed about this matter.
24 I will provide a succinct verbal summary of what
25 occurred. And in front of you, you have the timeline

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that will help reinforce the series of events that
2 transpired, and my hope is that this paints a very
3 clear picture of what occurred because information and
4 transparency is very important. And I think that will
5 help you understand.
6 So there may be some questions related to
7 technicalities of the technology employed for use of
8 this type of ad and the process that the department
9 responsible for search engine marketing employs. I'll
10 do my best to clarify those questions in my summary,
11 but my -- may rely on my colleague Tricia Kashima, who
12 is here -- she's our media director -- to help me
13 answer any of your follow-up questions in regards to
14 technicalities and process.
15 So you have the timeline. I'm going to
16 refer to it, and I'm going to start at the top where at
17 9:53 p.m. on Thursday evening -- a week ago -- we were
18 made aware of this -- of this and sent a screenshot of
19 this problem ad. We -- the ones who saw it, we
20 immediately recognized two things: one, the
21 information was absolutely incorrect and, two, the word
22 choice was incorrect.
23 Between 9:53 p.m. and 10:25 p.m., the
24 executive leadership that oversees search engine
25 marketing was immediately tracked down. Within about

145 minutes of the first communication from Clean
2 Elections, the firm had identified this unauthorized ad
3 in the firm's Google search software platform and
4 halted it. By 10:27 p.m., when this specific ad was
5 halted, it had received 2,557 views and 169 clicks.
6 The next morning at 7:00 a.m., the staff in
7 charge of search engine marketing and firm executives
8 gathered on a call to ascertain how this incorrect ad
9 made it into the software. The managers were
10 instructed to interview the employee tasked with this
11 work that morning. Through the interview with this
12 employee, it was determined that the ad going live was
13 an absolute mistake. At that moment, this employee was
14 immediately taken off all projects for Clean Elections.
15 Through conversations with this employee,
16 it was uncovered that they had conducted an assessment
17 of search terms for Clean Elections. These assessments
18 are common because it's their job to continuously
19 improve exposure awareness on behalf of our client
20 campaigns.
21 Through this assessment, they concluded
22 that using the names of specific candidates and the
23 term "defend" would generate more views and clicks for
24 the topic of debates. The recommendation founded in
25 this thinking was simultaneously created in the Google

1 search software on the employee's desktop; however,
2 instead of the sample ad remaining in draft mode, it
3 was mistakenly set to live mode.
4 Subsequently, the written recommendation
5 with this new approach was never formally presented to
6 the Clean Elections staff. As a result, the word
7 choice and the information in this ad had not been
8 authorized by Clean Elections staff nor the designated
9 RIESTER account manager.
10 Once this ad was in the software and had
11 been set to live mode, it went undetected because it
12 blended into other search ads that were running for
13 Clean Elections. In the employee's mind, this
14 particular ad was not yet in live mode because they had
15 not yet realized their mistake.
16 As a result of this incident, the firm will
17 be changing processes as follows: When the media team
18 has an idea on improving the performance of an ad, a
19 search engine marketing optimization recommendation,
20 including sample ads, will be presented to Clean
21 Elections staff for review in a formal written
22 recommendation and for discussion but will now have a
23 signature line for Clean Elections to sign providing
24 their authorization.
25 If the recommendation is approved, the

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1 document will be signed by Clean Elections staff. If
2 the recommendation is not approved, it will not be
3 signed. RIESTER's account manager will then determine
4 the need and the timeline for a new recommendation for
5 formal review. Only when Clean Elections signs a new
6 recommendation will these ads be added to the search
7 software by media team for activation.
8 In addition, RIESTER will provide a weekly
9 report of the ad performance of every search term to
10 Clean Elections staff. The firm will also provide
11 Clean Elections staff log-in access to the search
12 engine software so that, at any time, they can $\log$ in
13 and see the search engine marketing -- marketing terms.
14 Again, we want to apologize and stress how
15 rare this situation is. RIESTER has been providing
16 Google search advertising since it has been available,
17 and this is the first mistake like this that we have
18 ever encountered. We appreciate the collaboration with
19 you, with Tom, with Gina and the whole staff to
20 formulate stronger processes and to assure this never
21 happens again.
22 And that concludes my -- my formal remarks.
23 I'd defer to Tom on how you'd like to handle
24 follow-ups.
25 MR. COLLINS: Well, I think -- I think that

1 the first thing, you know, I want to say is I do
2 appreciate the fact that the RIESTER senior staff got
3 on top of this as soon as Gina notified them. I think
4 that was -- I think that was helpful to halting the ad,
5 first of all, and then -- and then -- and then being
6 able to get to at least a place where we know what
7 happened with the ad and then -- and then -- and then
8 be able to talk, at least, in general terms about a
9 process going forward by, you know, within a week. And
10 so I appreciate that.
11 I also believe that the company and its
12 members are sincerely concerned and apologetic about
13 this. I think that when the Commission -- when the
14 voter education staff vets State-approved vendors for
15 voter education-type activities, you know, we look for
16 certain things, including, you know, track record
17 working with the State and reliability and the approach
18 to trying to get the message out to voters about how
19 they can participate. And that was -- part of that was
20 the main -- that was really the driving reason for us
21 working with RIESTER for the last two years.
22
And so I would only say that, I mean, if
23 there are questions that are unanswered in terms of --
24 in terms of the Commission or if you would like to hear
25 more about specific actions that will be -- that we're

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going to be undertaking going forward, you know, now is 2 your time to do that. And I don't have anything more 3 to add than what -- than that.
4 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I have a question,
Mr. Chairman.
6 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Go ahead, Commissioner Chan.
8 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, Christina, thank you so much for being here, and I appreciate the tone because I -- when Tom notified us of what had had happened, I was -- I was not happy that it had occurred. And I know mistakes happen, but of course, campaigns -- and I know the campaign is here today to speak about this. I've never been involved, really, with a campaign, but having been in elections, I know how seriously these things affect candidates. And so I was very concerned.

And I also appreciate -- you know, I want
to echo what Tom said that, especially seeing the
20 timeline, that everybody was available, working on it
21 late at night, working on it early in the morning to
22 try to fix it and then address the problem that allowed
23 it to happen.
24 My question is -- because I don't know how
25 this all works technically, but if the -- how does this

1 really address the mistake that happened with regard
2 to -- because the employee, apparently, didn't do it on
3 purpose, so to speak, like, they knew there was a
4 process for somebody above them to review and then
5 approve before it went live, but they mistakenly let it
6 go live? Is that what happened?
7 So how does the new process address that,
8 or is it going to be -- is that able to be addressed, I
9 guess? I mean, how do you prevent a mistake like that
10 from happening if an employee has the authority to make
11 it go live on their own?
12 MS. BORREGO: I think what will happen is
13 that that -- the employee will not have that -- that
14 authority. It would be --
15 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay. So that's
16 possible, to take that authority away from a user?
17 MS. BORREGO: Right. Right. And the
18 copy -- the information, the words that are selected
19 need to be run and collaborated -- our account manager
20 would be responsible for assuring that the word choice
21 is correct.
22 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay. And then, you
23 know, from what I heard as far as our voter education
24 folks, then, also having access to what is live, I
25 guess.

1 MS. BORREGO: Yes.
2 COMMISSIONER CHAN: That will be helpful as
3 well because they'll be able to be even more in the
4 loop as far as what's out there on the -- on the web.
5 MS. BORREGO: Yes. I think it's an
6 additional layer of quality control and just
7 transparency.
8 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Okay.
9 MS. BORREGO: So we're very comfortable
10 with providing that access.
11 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you.
12 MR. COLLINS: And if I could just add on to
13 Christina's answer, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Chan,
14 we're -- you know, Gina has been working with the
15 RIESTER staff to look at ads that are out there and
16 identify any other ads that, while not controversial or
17 not within the -- you know, not within this
18 particularly acute problem that might not have gone
19 through the process, to just make sure we've got that
20 all under control.
21 So -- and we appreciate, you know, RIESTER
22 getting us that data so we can -- so we can go over it
23 ourselves, and that's something that Gina has been
24 doing over the course of the last week. So that's
25 been, I think, very helpful in starting the process of

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| 1 exactly what Christina is talking about. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Commissioner Kimble, go ahead. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Ms. Borrego, I think <br> this kind of follows up on Commissioner Chan's <br> question, but just reading through the reports you <br> provide, I guess I was -- I was pretty surprised that <br> an employee who you've had for five months and, <br> according to the report, did not grasp the true role <br> and responsibility of Clean Elections had the technical <br> ability to post something on his or her own without anyone knowing. <br> That -- that seems to me at the crux of the <br> problem, and I just want to make sure that there's some <br> kind of a measures to prevent that technically from <br> happening, that someone who doesn't grasp the role and responsibility of Clean Elections is not going to be just on their own posting something. <br> MS. BORREGO: Right. So within the agency, the account manager is the person that is the gatekeeper for all work. And so his misunderstanding of the brand -- what we would call your brand, your -you as an organization, was evident after this was <br> 25 written. So the -- his understanding -- his lack of | I'm with RIESTER. I'm the media director. <br> So what will -- usually when we have this software, the draft edit -- it's like a drafting software that's allowed on your desktop, we will disallow the linking to the actual software live. So that way when they do a draft, there's no way for them 7 to actually link it to the account. So it's just -- <br> 8 it's just a program on the computer that's not <br> 9 connected to the internet. It's just connected to the computer. There's no access to upload it to the Google AdWords campaign. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: But here there was somehow, right? <br> MS. KASHIMA: Typically -- <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: I think that's the <br> question is how -- how did that happen? Was that access supposed to be there? And how do we know, moving forward, how that issue is being addressed? Is that -- <br> 20 MS. KASHIMA: So, technically, people with <br> 21 this job title and his amount of experience are allowed <br> 22 access. That's their job to go into the -- into <br> 23 AdWords, into the platform and look at it, how the <br> 24 information or how the campaign is pacing, basically. <br> 25 So that is a technical part of their job, but because |
| understanding was -- was missed, I guess, but the -- <br> within the organization, there will be checks and <br> balances as far as information going live. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: I have -- <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Just -- go ahead, <br> Commissioner Paton. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: So is there a way <br> physically that somebody can't punch that button, I <br> guess? Is that basically what you're saying? <br> MS. BORREGO: Right. I think -- I don't <br> know, Tricia, if you want to come up here and sort of <br> explain how the software -- it's really a matter of <br> toggling over a button and not, like, hovering -- <br> hovering over a button. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: I mean, we're not <br> technical people as far as -- <br> MS. BORREGO: Yes. <br> MS. KASHIMA: So, Chairman, members of the <br> commission, yes. <br> MS. THOMAS: Please give your name -- <br> MS. KASHIMA: There's a way -- <br> MS. THOMAS: Excuse me. Please give your <br> name for the court reporter. <br> 25 MS. KASHIMA: My name is Tricia Kashima. | 1 of the sensitivity of the nature of what we're <br> 2 conducting here, we -- for anybody working on this <br> 3 account, we could disallow access, in general. <br> 4 MS. BORREGO: We will -- <br> 5 MS. KASHIMA: We will. Yes. <br> 6 MS. BORREGO: -- disallow acces. <br> 7 COMMISSIONER PATON: And for me -- <br> 8 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Go ahead. <br> 9 COMMISSIONER PATON: I mean, that's -- <br> 10 because anybody could do a mistake like that. I mean, <br> we all have posted stuff when we didn't really mean to, <br> but -- so physically, if they can't do it and it's only <br> the account manager or whatever, then, I mean, that <br> makes me feel a lot better. <br> MS. KASHIMA: Yes. This is -- <br> unfortunately, the nature of our business is, you know, <br> timeliness and how fast can we react. So -- but we can definitely restrict the access. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Thank you. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: I had a question on the -- <br> 21 I guess, the detection issue, the -- I guess, after the <br> 22 mistake was made, it took a few weeks for this to come <br> 23 to anyone's attention when we were put on notice by the <br> 24 Ducey campaign. So I know this is addressed in your <br> 25 memo, and I was just kind of confused. There's talk |

1 about a bundling and they are viewed individually, I 2 guess, but could you explain, like, moving forward, how 3 does something like this get detected sooner.
4 MS. BORREGO: Right.
5 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Taken down sooner.
6 MS. BORREGO: Yes. So, Chairman, what's
7 explained in the memo is that because there were active
8 campaigns already in the system, that this ad sort of
9 was blended into that -- that work, but as Tricia just
10 explained, moving forward on this particular -- on this
11 work, on this account, that will be disabled. So -- so
12 this should not happen again. So any campaigns that
13 are -- that are -- there will be an additional layer of
14 what campaigns are actually live.
15 I think you started by asking how did it --
16 how did it go undetected, and the answer is that it
17 blended into the other efforts that were already in the
18 system and it was flagged as -- just by the name of the
19 account, which is Clean Elections. So -- and, in his
20 mind, because it wasn't intended to go live, it didn't
21 exist. It wasn't -- it wasn't in the system, from his
22 perspective.
23 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, if I might, can
24 I ask -- may I ask a clarifying question on that point?
25 It sounds, like, I think -- is it an accurate analogy

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1 to say that when you are buying SEM or Google AdWords
2 type of things for the purpose of, you know, informing
3 folks about debates and informing folks about whatever,
4 you're buying it sort of in a bulk group? You are
5 putting out a bunch of words in a bulk. And so if this
6 is one line -- one -- you know, in one section of that
7 bulk thing, it would go undetected until somebody saw
8 that specific ad, potentially.
9 Is that a correct analogy?
10 MS. BORREGO: Certainly. I think so.
11 Would you -- I think you would --
12 MS. KASHIMA: So it's -- basically, when
13 we -- the campaigns are set up under a one-umbrella
14 campaign. So when he accidentally uploaded it, it just
15 became an extension of the debates campaign which has
16 thousands of words in there. And when we do -- when it
17 would be detected is when we pull a key word report,
18 which is not typically of the cadence of when we do
19 monitoring because it pulls tens of thousands of words,
20 but for this we can export it weekly and look at --
21 basically, flag and do a search on an Excel sheet on
22 how -- which words could be erroneous or flagged.
23 MR. COLLINS: And I think, Mr. Chairman,
24 Commissioners, one of the points -- I think -- I think
25 the thing -- the disconnect that, of course, concerns

1 us the most and I think will be remedied is that -- you
2 know, and the memo speaks to this -- is that, you know,
3 we were -- we did have a discussion with RIESTER about
4 candidate names specifically because we understand that
5 those are potentially good drivers of traffic to the
6 debate site, but we -- and RIESTER acknowledges this
7 that we specifically rejected that recommendation
8 because we believe -- Gina and I believe firmly that --
9 for the reasons that Commissioner Chan has already
10 cited, that when we get in the business of mentioning
11 candidate names, we get outside of what our -- what our
12 chief goal is, which is to inform voters about how to
13 participate, not to inform voters about, you know --
14 you know, what candidate is doing what.
15 So I think that the -- I think that that --
16 you know, that didn't communicate to this particular
17 staff member, but that is -- I think there's no
18 misunderstanding between us and the account -- the
19 account manager and the other members of the team that
20 we work with that has been unequivocally our position
21 on that issue.
22 CHAIRMAN MEYER: So, Tom, has the staff --
23 Clean Elections staff approved every proposed search or
24 ad from RIESTER before it goes live? Is that the
25 process, or do they go ahead and post things just based

10:03:24-10:04:30
1 upon, sort of, the guidelines that you've given them?
2 MR. COLLINS: I'd have to defer to Gina on
3 the specifics of that, Mr. Chairman.
4 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners,
5 anything -- before anything goes live, Clean Elections
6 staff does have to approve it, whether it's search,
7 whether it's a print ad. And usually, depending on the
8 type of media we're talking about, we get verification
9 of what was ran. So, for example, if we run a print
10 ad, we get a tear sheet for that. So that's actually a
11 tear -- our hard copy proof saying this has created the
12 message that you approved and this is the proof that it
13 ran.
14 For example, on social media, so if we have
15 an ad that we run on Facebook, we will get a
16 notification that your Facebook ad was approved. We
17 can see what was submitted and then, also, we have
18 access to the platform that RIESTER utilizes to input
19 that. So they utilize a platform called Hootsuite. We
20 have our own user name and log-in. So we can
21 periodically go in there and spot-check to make sure,
22 okay, this is what we agreed the final copy would be.
23 So my understanding is with AdWords now we
24 will also be given a user name and log-in so we can,
25 again, periodically go in there and review and
approve -- or excuse me. It should already be approved
if it's in there, but review just to make sure
everything is what we agreed upon. So we do --
anything that comes to us, it must be approved before
5 it is live, and usually we have a mechanism in there to go in and verify that that's the case.
7 With search, we would usually get a
spreadsheet of some sort to identify the key words that
would work well, you know, what our -- what our voter
10 is looking for when they go to Google, what do they
type in, that type of thing. And then, yes, we either
make edits or we approve it and then that is what is
made live. So, absolutely, anything that is going to
be out there to the public and marketed, we have to give formal approval on that.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, may I ask one
question to Gina just to make clear for the -- for the record?

In this particular case, this particular
item did not go through the Clean Elections staff for approval.

Correct?
23 MS. ROBERTS: That is correct. We
24 absolutely did not see any type of this language. When
25 I was first notified about this, I completely thought

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it was fake; it had the wrong date, the wrong tone. We would never use a candidate name. So it was -- it was a surprise.

And I -- when I received the detailed
instructions from -- or the detailed explanation from RIESTER about how this happened, it made it very clear to me, okay, this employee was new. He was five months in, because my thought was I could not imagine that RIESTER would even supply us with this type of recommendation knowing our brand, knowing the rules that we have in place, that we don't ever utilize a candidate name and how we work very hard to being non-partisan. So --

CHAIRMAN MEYER: And just -- I didn't ask that question about assigning blame. I'm just asking a process question.

MR. COLLINS: No. I understand. CHAIRMAN MEYER: I don't think -- listen,
this is a mistake. Everybody makes a mistake. I make mistakes every day. I guess my process question is it seems like the processes may be two ships passing in the night here because I hear from the RIESTER folks
how we have -- we have these draft ads and some of them are draft and then some of them are live and they're 25 kind of all in this same -- I don't know -- database,

1 for lack of a better word, where someone can click a
2 button and that post is now live, where what I'm
3 hearing from staff is before anything can go live, it
4 needs to be approved by us.
5 So my question is, why are we putting these
6 draft posts and these live posts in the same bin? We
7 should be running them through a filter so there's no
8 way anything over here on the draft side -- there's no
9 way anyone can hit a button that would make that live
10 until it goes through the filter of Clean Elections and
11 now it's out on the other side. Then we hit it live.
12 So that's why I asked the question, and that's kind of
13 the process.
14 Maybe that's too simplistic. I don't know, 15 but does that make sense? And I don't understand
16 why -- why these live and drafts are in the same bin.
17 COMMISSIONER PATTON: Ball game.
18 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I'll defer to
19 Tricia to talk a little bit more on that process. And
20 if I could add to that, too, if we could verify, I seem
21 to recall in the response from RIESTER somewhere that
22 they would no longer keep pending or draft key words in
23 the system. I think I recall reading that as well.
24 So, you know, removing that -- or ensuring that nothing
25 will be entered unless it's actually live, I think

10:07:54-10:09:00
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1 would be part of the verification.
2 And then, if I could also ask, too,
3 Mr. Chairman, as they consider that response, I do know
4 that they have to see what key words would work --
5 would work the best for the client, too. So maybe if
6 we could get a response that how do we ensure that we
7 do not have anything that is not live in the system
8 ever so we don't have that mistake of triggering it but
9 also ensuring that the client will still receive the
10 best recommendation that works within our normal -- our
1 normal process, our normal rules.
MS. KASHIMA: So I think working in the editor form and not letting that program have access to the internet at all will be the best way to do it,
because we use the editor feature in that platform
because Google has a set amount of standards of how
many text words you can have, how it's supposed -- how
8 it's supposed to lay out. So when we -- when we want
19 to show your draft, we want to show you what it
20 actually looks like with the words and the URL.
21 And it actually helps us cost out the ad,
22 as well, to see, based on what we're inputting into the
23 ad, how many impressions we'll get, how much it will
24 actually cost because we want to make sure we're not
25 overspending or drastically underspending, that our ad

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expenses are correct.
So that's how we use that draft editor --
AdWords editor for, but not letting it have access to
the actual account, the live account is the best way to
do it because we still need to utilize it for -- making
sure that we are in Google standards for the ad, that
they'll actually -- when we say it's ready to run, it
8 will actually get run and not get rejected by Google.
9 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Gina, does that -- did
10 they answer --
11 MS. ROBERTS: Yes.
12 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay.
13 Any other commissioners have any questions
14 or comments -- thank you very much for being here to
15 answer those questions.
16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Well, Mr. Chairman,
17 just one brief one of Tom.
18 So are you -- you and Gina satisfied with
19 whatever changes are being made this will not happen
20 again?
21 MR. COLLINS: Well, like I said, the
22 buck -- the buck ultimately -- the buck ultimately
23 stops here with me. And so if this happens again, you
24 know, you're in a position to be very critical of me.
I have a great deal of confidence that

10:10:14-10:11:46
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based on both our past experience working with RIESTER
and the -- and the kind of approach that they take to
ensuring that our voter education materials stay within
the boundaries that we want and achieve the goals we
5 want of reaching voters and with the steps that have
6 been outlined, that, yes, we should be able to avoid
7 this.
8 I'm confident that if it -- if it happens
9 again, if something like this happens again, we won't
10 be here just with RIESTER being in a position to, you
11 know, just describe it. We'll be here in a position
12 with me, essentially, saying that, you know, like I
13 said, this is -- that would be -- at that point, that
14 would be my responsibility that that happened.
15 And so -- so with that having been said, I
16 think we are in as good a position as we can be, given
17 all of the technical aspects of this. And I know that
18 Gina and I are committed to ensuring that everything
19 that we put out is at the level of quality that you
20 know that we have tried to put into our Voter Education
21 Program, which we think is our -- the crown jewel of
22 what the Commission does, really, and we want to secure
23 that and keep that and make sure that that continues to
24 be an impartial and reliable source of information for
25 candidates.

10:11:46-10:12:50
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1 So I think we're in the best place we can
2 be given the circumstances, and so I do recommend we
3 continue to move forward along the lines of the plan
4 that RIESTER has outlined. And -- and that's my view.
5 MS. BORREGO: If I can just add,
6 Mr. Chairman, you have our utmost commitment that this
7 will never happen again as well. Me and my colleagues,
8 we have been very distressed. This is a very
9 important -- very important work for us personally. We
10 believe so much in the mission of the Commission. So
11 you have our commitment that this -- this will never
12 happen again as well.
13 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Thank you very much, and
14 thank you for coming here and answering questions. We
15 very much appreciate it -- both of you.
16 Tom, I believe you had mentioned some of
17 the Ducey campaign members are here.
18 MR. COLLINS: Yes. This is JP Twist, who
19 is the campaign manager for the Ducey campaign. I
20 think he has some comments, and maybe -- and I'm not
21 sure. I don't know that we have questions for him, but
22 I think he had some -- at least had some statements to
23 make.
24 And so I would just allow him to -- if he
25 could -- JP, if you could introduce yourself for the

10:12:53-10:13:45
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1 record and for the court reporter so we get it all --
2 MR. TWIST: Sure.
3 MR. COLLINS: -- down.
4 MR. TWIST: Sure.
5 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record,
6 my name is JP Twist. I'm here with my colleague Sara
7 Mueller. Sara and I together, over the last four
8 years, are in charge of running the Governor's
political operation here in Arizona. We are here today
10 on our official capacity. I'm the campaign manager for
1 the Governor's reelection campaign.
I don't think I need to say anything about what's been said here. Obviously, we object to the tone and how the ads were run. The reason why I wanted
to come here today on behalf of our campaign is just to
thank the Commission, particularly your staff, for the
quickness that you guys moved to make sure that these
8 ads were removed and the professionalism that -- that
19 they shared with our campaign over communicating,
20 working late at night to get this resolved and
21 following through with us every step of the way to let
22 us know exactly what happened.
23 That means a lot to us, and I think in this
24 day and age it's not something that we typically come
25 to expect. So it was important for us to come just to

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| say it meant a lot to us that your staff showed the <br> professionalism that they did. And that's it. That's <br> all I wanted to share, that we very much appreciate <br> taking swift action, and we look forward to continuing <br> to work with you guys -- not in this circumstance, but <br> again, the professionalism was just quite remarkable. <br> And I felt compelled to come and say that. <br> So thank you. And I'm happy to answer your questions, but I just wanted to say that. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Thank you very much. <br> MR. TWIST: Thank you. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Thank you. <br> And, Tom and Gina, thank you. <br> Any further comments on that? <br> MR. COLLINS: I don't -- I don't believe -- <br> Ryan, you don't have -- you're not -- you're good? <br> Everybody? And -- everybody good? Gina, good? <br> Does anybody else want to comment on this <br> item? No? I think that closes out this item, <br> Mr. Chairman. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. All right. On to <br> Agenda Item Number V, which is discussion and possible <br> 23 action on legal matters involving the Clean Elections <br> 24 Act and/or the Clean Elections Commission. We have <br> 25 three matters here stated. I guess we'll just take | 1 reasons: One, AZAN objects to our rule that allows <br> 2 clean -- you know, because of the contribution <br> 3 definition change expressly allows candidates who are <br> 4 running clean to work with political parties if their <br> 5 nominee is just like any other candidate. And then, on <br> 6 the other hand -- on the other side, they are <br> 7 supportive of our rule on political campaign -- <br> 8 political committees and a rule we have in place that <br> 9 deals with what amount to de facto political committees and whether or not they owe a filing enforceable by penalty under Article 2 of the Clean Elections Act. <br> That -- those are really the -- that's <br> really the thrust of their -- of their complaint is the <br> Voter Protection Act and then Article 7 of the Arizona <br> Constitution which provides specifically that <br> information that is related to campaigns shall be -- <br> well, the legislature shall pass laws that require the <br> disclosure of contributors, the disclosure of <br> expenditure and the publicity of those. <br> And our position is that 1516 did not do <br> that and our rule, therefore, is a -- is a correct <br> interpretation of the constitution. So we are sort of <br> 23 straddling the two sides of the argument that AZAN is <br> 24 bringing while, the Secretary of State and GRRC are <br> 25 sort of -- they are really focused on the -- our |
| 10:14:51-10:16:07 <br> them in order. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. So -- <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: I know Item Number A is <br> Arizona Advocacy, et al., versus Reagan. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. So what -- there's <br> really -- there's sort of more than three items because the one is all litigation related to HCR 2007, which involves two -- there's at least two matters involved there. <br> With respect to the -- with respect to <br> the -- well, Mary is here to answer any specific legal <br> questions and, obviously, you have the option to go <br> into executive session, if you so desire. <br> The Arizona Advocacy case is now -- I think <br> the briefing on summary judgment is now closed. I <br> think we got you the last brief that was filed by the <br> 17 State and GRRC. Both filed -- both the Secretary of <br> 18 State and GRRC filed briefs. You have those for your <br> 19 perusal. I think we have -- and I don't have an oral <br> 20 argument, though, however, for a little while, but <br> 21 that's -- so that's there. <br> 22 That case, just for everybody's <br> 23 understanding, involves Voter Protection Act and <br> 24 Arizona -- and other Arizona constitutional law <br> 25 challenges to SB 1516 . We were in the case for two | 1 definition of de facto political committee, and -- and <br> 2 that's sort of where things are, to summarize. <br> 3 I'd like to try to move as quickly as I can <br> 4 through the public portion of this. HCR 2007, there <br> 5 are two lawsuits. One, we filed, and we just filed -- <br> 6 you have a copy of the -- we have a very expedited <br> 7 summary judgment calendar on that. We filed our motion for summary judgment yesterday, which you have a copy of. We -- legislative council will file their response -- their cross motion on Monday and then -- I think, and then we'll have responses. And I'm not -and, again, I have forgotten what the hearing dates are on these things, but we'll get you those as quickly as possible. <br> That, again, you know, it reflects -- you know, we sent a letter -- I sent a letter to "leg" <br> council outlining many of these flaws that are in the complaint. So the complaint should look familiar in <br> 19 the sense that we have put the legislative council on <br> 20 notice that these were going to be legal deficiencies <br> 21 and they did not solve that problem. So we are -- we <br> 22 are -- feel like this -- you know, we've already made <br> 23 the decision to file a suit, but we are working to <br> 24 expedite the resolution of it through the expedited <br> 25 briefing as much as we can. |


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| 1 The second HCR 2007 suit which was brought <br> 2 by former Commissioner Hoffman and Commissioner Chan in 3 her personal capacity -- so can I call you Amy Chan? -- <br> 4 Lewis Hoffman and Amy Chan, as opposed to Commissioner <br> 5 Chan -- and they're represented by the Center for Law <br> 6 in the Public Interest. The judge in that case -- it's <br> 7 a single subject case. Basically, the constitution, at <br> 8 least as I had understood it, requires legislative <br> 9 bills to contain but one subject. <br> And we believe -- we lobbied during the <br> session that this combination of doing stuff to <br> participating candidates and combining it with the <br> 13 Governor's Regulatory Review Council was a single subject violation. <br> The judge in this case -- the Superior <br> Court judge in this case, of all the ways that she <br> could have ruled, she ruled that legislative <br> referendums which are passed by the legislature <br> 19 pursuant to Article 4, they are enactments of the <br> 20 legislature pursuant to the -- Article 4 of the Arizona <br> 21 Constitution are somehow completely exempt from the <br> 22 single subject requirement, despite the fact that the <br> 23 legislature has to vote for them like any other bill <br> 24 and despite the fact that the constitution specifically <br> 25 says that such bills are not subject to gubernatorial | dismiss there. <br> We sued to enforce our order and demand <br> both payment and the filing of reports that still <br> haven't been filed. They countersued to say somehow <br> they have the right to relitigate the issues they <br> already have foregone the opportunity to litigate and <br> had the Supreme Court tell them they've foregone the <br> opportunity to litigate, but nevertheless, they are <br> litigating. <br> So that case is, frankly, frustrating and <br> border -- it's unbelievable to me, just in my -- just, <br> if I might, but it is what it is. <br> So those are the cases. I don't believe <br> that any of them, other than the HCR 2007, would be -- <br> would be -- necessarily require an executive session. <br> And that's only if you have questions on anything that <br> I've talked about. <br> Mary is here in the event that that -- that <br> you -- that anyone wants to go into executive session, but again, I don't think it's a priority. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: So the HCR 2007 cases, <br> there's two of them. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: The one we filed, we have <br> just filed the motion for summary judgment. |
| 10:21:00-10:22:28 <br> 1 veto. <br> 2 Nevertheless, the judge determined that <br> 3 this was -- this was a -- that it simply doesn't apply <br> 4 at all. So you can have a bill -- apparently, you can <br> 5 have a referendum that, you know, can merge, you know, <br> 6 standards for cattle ranching with standards for school <br> 7 buses and that's perfectly fine. And I -- so, you <br> 8 know, notwithstanding the fact that's not our case, I <br> 9 think that the decision -- personally I think the <br> decision was -- is incorrect. <br> The Center for Law has indicated that they <br> are filing an appeal and -- well, I don't know. I <br> don't know. I mean, I don't think -- and -- and we'll <br> see what happens after that. <br> If you have questions specifically on <br> anything the Commission might or might not want to do <br> on that, that, if any of these, would be the one thing <br> I would think you -- I'm not recommending an executive <br> session, but that may be one thing you might want to <br> have of all these. <br> 21 And then, finally, we get to our LFAF <br> 22 friends, the Legacy Foundation Action Fund from Iowa. <br> 23 I don't know why, Mr. Chairman, you haven't been able <br> 24 to pull some of the -- your strings in Iowa to resolve <br> 25 this, but in any event, we have cross motions to | MR. COLLINS: Yeah. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Have we gotten an answer <br> on that yet? <br> MS. O'GRADY: You want me to give the deadlines? <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. That would be good. <br> MS. O'GRADY: The State's -- <br> MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Mary. <br> MS. O'GRADY: The "leg" council's response <br> is due Monday. Our reply is due Wednesday, and oral <br> argument is next Friday at $1: 30$. So it's expedited <br> because the printing deadline is in August. So we <br> wanted to leave time both for expedited Supreme Court <br> review, if necessary, and for legislative council to <br> remedy the problems if we prevail. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Did they file an answer? <br> MS. O'GRADY: They didn't file an answer. <br> We are getting right to summary judgment motions. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: I'm just curious have we <br> gleaned any defenses from the answer, but it doesn't <br> sound like that. <br> And then the second case is Amy Chan's <br> case. <br> 24 Is that -- that decision has been made and <br> 25 now you are deciding whether or not to appeal? |


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| 1 MS. O'GRADY: I can update that if -- there <br> has been an -- they did appeal. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. <br> MS. O'GRADY: And there's a briefing <br> schedule set. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. <br> MS. O'GRADY: And that, too, is on an <br> expedited basis at the Supreme Court, and that will be <br> conferenced and decided late August. <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. <br> Commissioner Kimble? <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman, I have <br> one question, Mary. <br> The first case, the one we filed -- and I <br> don't think this has to be in executive session, but <br> should we prevail, do we have some proposed wording to <br> submit to the judge that we would like, or how is this <br> going to proceed? <br> MS. O'GRADY: We've identified the <br> particular problems. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Right. <br> MS. O'GRADY: And so our hope is that the <br> Court agrees with us that those are, indeed, problems. <br> And so some of them, the language fix is evident from <br> the description of the problem, but we didn't say make | more comfortable in executive session in terms of, you <br> know, our legal strategies of what we might do in the future in court. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. Well, I don't <br> know that it's -- that it's worth that but -- <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: So, just from a timing <br> perspective, this is the last chance we have to discuss that before we get a ruling, most likely. <br> Correct? <br> MR. COLLINS: That is correct. It's also, <br> just on the HCR 2007 -- and I don't know how -- what we <br> would do with Commissioner Chan's role there, but it's <br> also the last opportunity we'll have to discuss if -- <br> and this is a big if -- the Commission sees the need to <br> file an amicus on any issues related to the description <br> of Clean Elections or other -- other kinds of -- I <br> don't want to get more detailed than that, but other <br> kinds of things that the Commission itself needs to <br> speak to, if any. This is our -- this is our last <br> opportunity to do that, too. <br> 21 CHAIRMAN MEYER: All right. Well, I think <br> we should go into executive session. <br> 23 Anyone -- I'll make that motion. <br> 24 Any comments from -- <br> 25 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I'll second the motion. |
| legislative council say this. We said make them -- <br> it's wrong because they omitted this information or -- <br> so it sort of -- it's evident by the nature of the <br> problem what the solution is, for the most part. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. Because I know <br> previously it was -- <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Careful we don't discuss <br> anything that we discussed in executive session. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: No, I don't think <br> this was. <br> It -- other -- other ballot descriptions <br> are substantially lengthier than this one. I mean, <br> it's not like there's a hard word limit that this one <br> is up against as written by the legislative council. <br> MS. O'GRADY: That's right. There were two <br> others approved that they, and this is -- <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. <br> MS. O'GRADY: -- the shortest of the three. <br> COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: So would it be <br> advantageous to have something ready to -- and tell me <br> if you think this needs to be discussed in executive <br> session, but to have something ready to say this is -- <br> to the judge -- this is what we think it should read? <br> MS. O'GRADY: Well, I think if we're going <br> to get beyond what's in public record already, I'd feel | 1 CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. I move we go into <br> 2 executive session. Commissioner Chan has seconded that 3 motion. <br> 4 All in favor of going into executive <br> 5 session say aye. <br> (Chorus of ayes.) <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Any opposed? <br> (No response.) <br> CHAIRMAN MEYER: Okay. Motion carries 4-0. <br> We are in executive session, and I'd ask the attendees <br> to please step out. <br> Thank you. <br> (The following section of the meeting is in <br> executive session and bound under separate cover.) <br> (End of executive session. Public meeting <br> resumes at 10:45 a.m.) <br> ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Meyer <br> had to leave because of a scheduling conflict. We're <br> out of executive session, and the public portion of the <br> July 19th meeting of the Citizens Clean Elections <br> Commission is resuming with Item VI: Discussion and <br> possible action on recap of Arizona voter crisis report <br> and related issues. <br> 25 Tom? |

1 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Commissioners, this 2 is -- this is a -- the good news -- good news/bad news.
3 The bad news is not enough people are voting, and in
4 the future it looks like there may be fewer people voting. The good news is that this particular project,
in working with the Morrison Institute and, actually,
working with RIESTER, because RIESTER really did help
us pull this together, and then -- and then, obviously,
Gina and her staff helped us make this into an event
10 that I really think was one of the best events that
1 we've hosted.
12 We had 70 people there live. I have some
metrics on the media coverage. We got coverage on
television stations from Phoenix to Tucson, Channel 15
here, channel -- a number of -- a number of Tucson
16 channels. I don't know. I don't know if we have any
17 metrics on the social engagement. We did see a lot of
18 social engagement.
19 Ryan, I'm looking at you. I don't know if
20 we --
MR. WHEELOCK: We do have some metrics.
MR. COLLINS: Okay. Okay. That will be --
23 that might -- that will be great to add here, but while
24 Ryan is looking for that, what I'd like to do is
25 play -- we put together -- RIESTER -- working with

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RIESTER we put together an intro video for the -- for
the live event that's now on our website. And Alec has
done a great job of featuring all of these items on our
website. It really looks sharp. And we're really
proud of it, but we'd like to -- without further ado.
6 MS. ROBERTS: And, Commissioners,
unfortunately, due to the power outage we had last
week, this is the only TV that we have that is
operating right now. So my apologies. You'll have to 10 turn.
11 (Video playing.)
12 MR. COLLINS: So that video aired before
13 the Morrison Institute presented their findings, and I
4 think it helped set the tone for what we're -- what
15 we're looking at, which is, you know, what are -- what
16 is the status now and what we're looking at in the
17 future. And that's within the legal framework that we
18 have -- that we have to work with. I mean, in other
19 words, some people want different laws changed, but
20 that wasn't the purpose of this report.
The purpose of this report was to look at
22 where we are now, and the other purpose of this report,
23 from a voter education perspective, is we have
24 specifically looked at -- and Gina has briefed you on
25 about our specific work on independent voters, our

1 specific work on Millennials that we've worked on for
2 the last several years. So I think that the report
3 also validates, from a research perspective, the work
4 that the Commission has been doing.
5 I also wanted to kind of describe the scene
6 at the -- that we had. And if you-all want me to --
7 you know, if you get tired of listening to me, let
8 me -- let me know, but we're very -- I'm thrilled about
9 this even. And I have a lot to say about it but, you
10 know, the event itself, once the research was done --
11 and Commissioner Chan and I were on the panel. We
12 assured that there was ideological diversity on the
13 panel.
14 We had Paul Avelar, who is the managing
15 partner of the Institute for Justice's chapter here in
16 Arizona was on the panel with us. And he has different
17 views about -- about these results, the results of the
18 research for sure, but I thought he brought a very good
19 perspective because it's important, when we do research
20 like this, that we be -- they'd be able to withstand
21 and take criticism directly. And so we brought that
22 into the process, and I think that was important.
23 I also -- I also think that -- you know, we
24 talk a lot about civility in politics right now, and I
25 thought that the panel was an example of -- you can

10:53:49-10:55:22
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1 talk a lot about civility, but the panel was an example
2 of people who have wildly different ideological views
3 who had a very healthy and -- and meaningful, I
4 thought, discussion and actually came to agree on
5 certain issues around the problems with respect to
6 people turning out to vote. And I really -- I'm really
7 proud of the fact that that's the kind of discussion
8 that we had at the event.
9 We will be doing two more of these reports
10 and events. The next one is on independents in August,
11 and that will be an event up in Flagstaff. And then
12 we'll be in Tucson in the general election, providing
13 information on resources for voters.
14 Also -- I also -- just a couple of quick
15 other mentions. One of Morrison researchers and I were
16 on Arizona Horizon, which is the local PBS equivalent
17 to Arizona Illustrated -- if Arizona Illustrated exists
18 anymore -- on the night of the event. And, actually,
19 while this meeting is going on, David Daugherty, who is
20 the -- is also the -- is one of the authors of this
21 report, and I pre-taped an interview with KJZZ, which
22 is -- which aired literally while we were meeting
23 today, again, talking about the report and the
24 findings.
25 And I think that -- you know, I think that

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| 1 there's some really important messages here and some <br> 2 really important points that I think that we are <br> 3 really -- with the work that Gina and both her team -internal team and external team are addressing. <br> 5 You know, Millennials, for example -- I <br> 6 keep going back to this example -- for the most part <br> 7 grew up in the Great Recession, right? They grew up <br> 8 with different economic opportunities than Baby Boomers <br> 9 grew up with or that even Gen X'ers grew up with. And <br> 10 so, you know, the disconnect -- we have 45 percent of <br> 11 them aren't even registered to vote, but part of the <br> disconnect is they have different issues. <br> They face higher -- higher education costs <br> which changed, you know, the decision factors. They are putting off buying homes longer than -- than prior generations because of that financial thing. I know that's something you've probably seen, Commissioner Paton -- putting off having families, all of that stuff. They have just a whole different group of issues and, as we all know, they have an entirely different media landscape that they interact with. So with our 18 in 2018 campaign, for example, and the way we interact with Snapchat and Shazam, the way we, through the voter dashboard, have individualized and revolutionized, I believe, the | on the spot, I know. <br> MS. ROBERTS: Sure. <br> MR. COLLINS: If you -- you're welcome to. <br> MS. ROBERTS: I think you have covered them <br> a lot of it -- most of the important pieces. <br> MR. COLLINS: Okay. <br> And, Ryan, did you have some -- some social <br> data? <br> MR. WHEELOCK: Yeah, we have the -- do you <br> want me to just go ahead and come up? <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah, if you can. <br> MR. WHEELOCK: Yeah. <br> MR. COLLINS: You have to introduce <br> yourself for the record whether you like it or not. <br> MR. WHEELOCK: My name is Ryan Wheelock. <br> Commissioners, thank you. <br> The event earned about 506,000 online <br> impressions. We pulled this report yesterday. It had <br> six TV mentions equalling about 104,000 impressions for <br> 20 the TV mentions, and it got picked up in Prescott and <br> 21 Tucson. For social media, the live tweeting garnered <br> 22700 -- or 7,343 impressions on the day of the event. <br> 23 The day after the event, there was an additional 5,711 <br> 24 impressions. There were 329 engagements on Twitter, 22 <br> 25 new followers on Twitter and 12 mentions, and the |
| ability to get all the information that you need in order to vote and know who is -- who you are voting for, I think those kinds of steps that are bringing individualized information to voters really works for the Millennial voter who sees themselves as an individual and may see themselves as not having their -- their issues met. <br> So we're doing the work to reach those voters. At the same time, with the candidate statement pamphlet, we are continuing to reach out to those voters who either are not computer savvy or live in areas of the state, particularly the rural areas and many of the -- many reservation areas where there's simply not the connectivity. <br> And so that the candidate statement pamphlet, which, you know, we have changed and made more effective by -- by not including 300 pages of people you aren't going to be able to vote for, but <br> 19 we've made that more effective. And we continue to be <br> 20 the only state agency that provides that kind of <br> 21 information in both English and Spanish to try to -- to <br> 22 try to make sure that we maintain that integrity and <br> 23 compliance with the Voting Rights Act. <br> 24 So those are some of my takeaways. I don't <br> 25 know if -- Gina, if there's others that you would add | 1 Facebook event reached 2.5000 people and garnered 65 2 responses. It was a great event. <br> ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. <br> Anything else, Tom? <br> MR. COLLINS: No, no. I think -- I think <br> that -- I think that that about captures it. We're <br> 7 looking forward to the additional parts of this <br> process, and we think that -- you know, we had a rich a <br> 9 discussion when we decided to go ahead with this <br> project, and I think that this first go around, I will <br> say, from my perspective, the whole package, it <br> exceeded my expectations both in terms of reach -- oh, <br> do you want to -- oh, okay -- both in terms of reach <br> and in terms of attendance and in terms of value to our underlying Voter Education Program in terms of showing the connection between what we're doing and what the numbers show. <br> So I'm really proud of this, the work that <br> everybody involved in this did, and I just want to <br> thank -- you know, thank Gina and Christina and Ryan <br> for their help and, of course, the Morrison Institute <br> for drafting the report. And it's just something we're <br> just -- we're just super proud of. That's all I have to say. <br> 25 ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's a very |

impressive report. And I can't claim to be a
Millennial, but I am a political independent. And I'm
disturbed by looking here that of the 1.2 million
independents, 458,000 vote - - did not vote at all in
2016, and that's very discouraging.
6 MR. COLLINS: You know, and to that point,
Commissioner Kimble, we talked about that and that
has -- there's about three different -- three different
takeaways I have from that. First, the Commission has
10 in the past focused on independent voters and as part
11 of our campaigns, our efforts to get people to be aware
12 of their voting rights. I'm not sure what we have
13 planned -- if we have that planned for this year.
14 MS. ROBERTS: We're planning it now.
15 MR. COLLINS: We are doing that now. And
16 what we found in Maricopa County the first time we did
17 this was there was -- even the number of -- the
18 absolute number of independent voters remained quite
19 low. The increase -- percentage increase was
20 significant. So there is some hope there.
21 The real issue -- the other -- on the other
22 hand, the issue with independents is partially driven
23 by the fact obviously many independents don't want to
24 be part of a party, but the parties are key to driving
25 turnout. And what the parties have done, I think, over

11:02:04-11:03:15
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time is decided who their voters are and focused on
those folks. So they're not necessarily going to focus
on an independent unless they see some record of that
independent voting in a particular primary or whatever.
And I think that is -- that may work for
them strategically, but it ultimately has potential
problems for the overall public good in the context of
a democratic republic. So, you know, communicating to
voters that they -- independent voters they have the
0 opportunity to vote in the primaries is a very -- is a
very important part of that.
The other irony is, you know, and one of
the -- one of the things that was brought out was, you
know, some criticism for whether or not -- you know,
45 -- 45 percent of people who are either eligible to vote but didn't register or didn't -- or chose not to vote at all in the 2016 election, maybe that's just not such a big deal.

People don't want to vote, but there's a
catch-22 there because if you believe that it's okay that people aren't going to vote and then you end up with city councils and board of supervisors and other entities that might not be representative, you end up with more legislation at the ballot box because people get frustrated with the legislature and they take out

1 initiatives. And folks -- the very folks who claim
2 they don't want people to vote also don't want
3 governments by the ballot box, but that's the result of
4 the fact that we're not getting the best cross section
5 of voters.
6 So there's a real catch-22 there for folks
7 who say, oh, this isn't really a crisis because if you
8 don't think it's a crisis now, it might get worse, but
9 it also is going to lead to, I think, predictably more
10 initiatives and referendums because folks who feel
11 marginalized are going to take those issues up because
12 of their frustration.
13 So I think those are the reasons why
14 independents ought to be engaged because, otherwise,
15 they're foregoing their opportunity to have a -- have
16 to -- you know, when you vote for a legislator, you're
17 delegating that person the authority to make decisions
18 on your behalf. And I think communicating to them
19 that -- I said this yesterday in the interview with
20 KJZZ. An independent who doesn't vote isn't just not
21 voting. They're actually doubling the weight of the
22 person who votes. So you're not just staying out of
23 it. You are actually multiplying the power of the vote
24 that you didn't -- you know, you didn't cast.
25 And I don't think that that kind of -- I

11:04:38-11:05:30
1 don't think -- I don't think a lot of independents
2 understand how much power they are giving to the folks
3 who do vote when they choose not to vote because
4 every -- for every vote that isn't there, the vote that
5 replaces it is double weighted, basically.
6 So those are some of my takeaways from the
7 independents.
COMMISSIONER PATON: Can I say something briefly?

MR. COLLINS: Sure.
ACTING CHAIRMAN MEYER: Commissioner Paton.
COMMISSIONER PATON: As far as the
independents, there seems to be a lot of confusion
about them voting in primaries.
MR. COLLINS: Yeah.
COMMISSIONER PATON: And I know my own wife
is an independent and she's always, like, can I vote on
18 the primary? Can I not? So -- so, I mean, she's an
educated woman with a master's degree.
MR. COLLINS: Sure.
COMMISSIONER PATON: And she's confused.
22 So one thing I think we need to, as far as our
23 education program goes -- and I know that Gina has done
24 stuff about that, but we really need to educate the
25 independents of when they can vote and so on because

| 11:05:34-11:06:53 Page 62 | 11:08:12-11:08:47 Page 64 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 they are confused. And then, secondly, the -- in my <br> view, both major parties are to both wings and aren't <br> 3 talking to people in the middle and as to their -- both of the parties' detriments, I think. <br> MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, if I could, <br> Commissioner Paton, I think you make some absolutely <br> valid points. I mean, the biggest single issue with <br> confusion about independents -- well, I should say <br> 9 there's two issues, but the biggest single issue is the <br> fact that our presidential preference election does not <br> allow independents to vote and our open primary for <br> the -- for the state offices does. And that is <br> something that is a cycle that repeats itself every two years. <br> And we still, as a -- as an election <br> community, including the county election directors and <br> the recorders and the Secretary of State, all of us are <br> aware of this problem. All of us have worked on it and <br> continue to work on it, but it is the single biggest <br> driver of confusion. <br> 21 The second -- I think that the second <br> 22 biggest driver of confusion is if you are on the PVL, <br> 23 the primary voting list, you have to tell your county <br> 24 recorder what ballot you want or they won't send you <br> 25 one. That's another area of confusion. | primary to put a big headline independents can vote on <br> this primary, you know, and just put that to all the <br> Arizona newspapers like the day before. <br> MR. COLLINS: Well, we -- that's the kind <br> of thing we can certainly look at. Gina and I can look <br> at that with our team. <br> COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman -- <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: I mean, who could be <br> against that if you're a newspaper? <br> COMMISSIONER CHAN: Or Mr. Chairman -- <br> MR. COLLINS: I don't know who reads the <br> newspaper. <br> COMMISSIONER CHAN: -- to that point, maybe <br> we have it put on the ADOT signs because maybe even <br> more people read those these days than the newspapers, <br> unfortunately. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: And we spoke about that before. <br> MR. COLLINS: Yeah. <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: They won't let us put <br> stuff on it. <br> COMMISSIONER CHAN: Oh, what? <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: That would be great, <br> actually. <br> 25 MR. COLLINS: Yeah, I know. |
| 1 And then the third area of confusion is <br> that it's not an open primary in the sense of the sort <br> of top 2 type of stuff you have in California. You <br> have to pick a ballot of a party and you are not in a <br> position to pick and choose among -- among them. <br> So those -- those three things are, I <br> think, the top areas of confusion. I think that the <br> consensus among election administrators is that those <br> 9 are the things we need to address. And we have been, <br> but it takes -- I mean, the Commission started -- the <br> first time we did -- we did address the specific <br> independent voters was, I want to say, 2014. And we've persisted in doing that since then. <br> And I think that it takes -- one of the <br> nice things about the Commission itself is because <br> there's such -- there's stability in the membership; <br> it's not -- and because you're appointed in a way that <br> makes you non-partisan and independent and all the <br> things that we think are important, but the ability to <br> sustain an effort over time is key to what -- to <br> addressing those issues. <br> Commissioner Paton? <br> COMMISSIONER PATON: Yeah. I've got -- <br> maybe it's a suggestion that would be appropriate, but <br> 25 maybe we can convince the newspapers the day before the | COMMISSIONER CHAN: That was -COMMISSIONER PATON: Instead of their <br> little phrases that they use. <br> ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Gina? <br> MS. ROBERTS: Commissioners, if I could, <br> that's a sore subject for me. We have tried very, very <br> 7 hard for several years to get ADOT to post signs on <br> 8 there and even so more recently since they seem to be a <br> 9 little bit more relaxed on the type of message they are <br> 10 putting out there. I sent an email, you know, maybe a <br> 11 month ago to try to touch base again, and so we are <br> 12 working on that effort for sure. We definitely want to <br> 13 see if we can utilize that tactic. <br> 14 And then, as far as the newspaper coverage <br> 15 goes, we were fortunate where in 2016, a lot of the <br> 16 materials that we created to educate independent voters <br> 17 and -- about the primary election, in general, AZ <br> 18 Central and the "Republic," they did pick those up. <br> 19 They did utilize our infographics, and this was, I <br> 20 think, on the bottom fold of the front page. So we are <br> 21 making headway there to work with our partners in the <br> 22 media to make sure that we can get that message out <br> 23 there. <br> 24 As Tom mentioned, the biggest issues that <br> 25 we run across with independents are, one, just the |


| 11:09:48-11:10:46 | 11:11:57-11:13:14 Page 68 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 education po | 1 partisan electi |
| 2 participate, navigating | 2 |
| 3 changes across each ele | 3 statement, probably, but it just -- just thinking about |
| 4 So, | 4 the system, it just -- I continue to -- I've |
| 5 | 5 wondering and continue to have the question of |
|  | 6 did that come from and why do we continue |
| 7 libertarian | 7 I know there was an initiative. I didn't remember |
| 8 only ch | 8 we voted on it, but to have a top 2, you know, prima |
| 9 that changes | 9 But I just -- I continue to belie |
| 10 | 10 everything that I see from people |
| 11 | 11 media and on social media -- and, ag |
| 12 | 12 probably my microcosm. So it may be very like-m |
| 13 commentary | 13 people, but that many tend to believe that our par |
| 14 out there is then the | 14 system does tend to have some extreme viewpoints in |
| $15$ | 15 And having the primaries be -- even though they' |
| $16$ | 16 open, having more party members participate tha |
| 17 have a | 17 know, the independents can lead to some polarizatio |
| 18 and promote that particip | 18 that I believe might not be there if we had more people |
| 19 those numbers | 19 participate at the very beginning than just at the |
| 20 | 20 general election. |
| $21$ | 21 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, can I just make |
|  | 22 two quick point |
| 23 | 23 ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Tom. |
| 24 percent. So while the numbers themselves aren't great, 25 we're going in the right direction. And so we do have | 24 MR. COLLINS: And I'm sure you're probably <br> 25 ready to head back down to south of the Gila, but |
| 11:10:49-11:11:54 | 11:13:18-11:14:37 Page 69 |
| 1 education efforts out right now aimed at independent 2 and we're going to continue that. | 1 Commissioner Chan's point, you know, we have an open <br> 2 door to, you know, specifically the county |
| 3 COMMISSIONER PATON: Mr. Kimb | 3 administrators but, really, anybody who wa |
| 4 former newspaper man, as well as Tom. Maybe they | 4 propose a policy for Mike and I to review as we put |
| 5 ideas about, like, the | 5 together our legislative agenda as to whether or not |
| 6 primaries, how the newspapers can promote the fact th | 6 would lend support or not. We have always been open |
| 7 independents could vote in pri | 7 that. Folks haven't taken us up on that, but w |
| 8 ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Y | 8 have -- we do have that open. |
| 9 think that's pretty widely promoted in the newspap | 9 Now, whether or not we would |
| 10 You know, it's not a big surprise that newspap | 10 recommend, that's a whole other vetting proc |
| 11 readership has fallen off the cliff. So I'm not | 11 have to go through, but that is something we are ope |
| 12 that that's the best solution. That's certainly o | 12 |
| 13 them, thoug | 13 |
| 14 COMMISSI | 14 be noted that the decree that Kara negotiated on behal |
| 15 ACTING CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Cha | 15 of Secretary Reagan itself may bring in more voters |
| 16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: If I could just | 16 because it is, by its terms, as she not |
| 17 comment. You know, one thing that just cont | 17 designed to eliminate some of the confusi |
| 18 comes to my mind when we talk about voter participation | 18 on the registration, and it's for folks who aren't |
| 19 and taking into account the increase in the folks who | 19 using Service Arizona but are using paper form |
| 20 are not registered with recognized parties and who, you | 20 So we do have a posit |
| 21 know, for a variety of reasons, but including th | 21 terms of voter registration, you know, notwithstandin |
| 22 confusion we're talking about with participating, | 22 my antiquated views about -- about the case I worked |
| 23 | 23 on, but -- no, but in all seriousness, th |
| 24 sense of, oh, now I can vote, but I have to choose a | 24 Kara said, that's the -- that's the end goal is that |
| 25 ballot, it just makes me wonder why we continue to have | 25 there's no wrong door now for folks who file by paper |



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