

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Location:** Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1616 West Adams, Suite 110

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Date: Thursday, December 17, 2020

Time: 9:30 a. m.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the Commissioners of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission and the general public that the Citizens Clean Elections Commission will hold a regular meeting, which is open to the public on December 17, 2020. This meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., at the Citizens Clean Elections Commission, 1616 West Adams, Suite 110, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. The meeting may be available for live streaming online at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/AZCCEC/live">https://www.youtube.com/c/AZCCEC/live</a>. You can also visit <a href="https://www.azcleanelections.gov/cleanelections-commission-meetings">https://www.azcleanelections.gov/cleanelections-commission-meetings</a>. Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission will attend either in person or by telephone, video, or internet conferencing. **This meeting will be held virtually.** Instructions on how the public may participate in this meeting are below. For additional information, please call (602) 364-3477 or contact Commission staff at <a href="mailto:ceec@azcleanelections.gov">ceec@azcleanelections.gov</a>.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

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**Meeting ID:** 880 7670 5832 **Passcode:** 722202

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Please note that members of the public that choose to use the Zoom video link must keep their microphone muted for the duration of the meeting. If a member of the public wishes to speak, they may use the Zoom raise hand feature and once called on, unmute themselves on Zoom once the meeting is open for public comment. Members of the public may participate via Zoom by computer, tablet or telephone (dial in only option is available but you will not be able to use the Zoom raise hand feature, meeting administrator will assist phone attendees). Please keep yourself muted unless you are prompted to speak. The Commission allows time for public comment on any item on the agenda. Council members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing Council staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

The Commission may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on any item listed on the agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3). The Commission reserves the right at its discretion to address the agenda matters in an order different than outlined below.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Discussion and Possible Action on Commission Minutes for November 19, 2020.
- III. Discussion and Possible Action on Executive Director's Report.
- IV. Discussion and Possible Action on 2021 Budget
- V. Discussion and Possible Action on the following 2020 Primary Election Candidate Audits.
  - A. Bill Mundell, Corporation Commission
  - B. Leezah Sun, State Rep, LD19
  - C. Linda Patterson, State Senate, LD11
  - D. Luis Parra, State Rep, LD2
  - E. Shea Stanfield, Corporation Commission
- VI. Discussion and Possible Action on MUR 20-04 Eric Sloan.
- VII. Public Comment

This is the time for consideration of comments and suggestions from the public. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or rescheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date or responding to criticism

VIII. Adjournment.

This agenda is subject to change up to 24 hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda background material provided to the Commission (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the Commission's office, 1616 West Adams, Suite 110, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2020.

Citizens Clean Elections Commission Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director

Any person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Commission at (602) 364-3477. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodations.

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4	THE STATE OF ARIZONA
5	CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION
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10	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETING
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14	Phoenix, Arizona
15	November 19, 2020
16	9:31 a.m.
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21	COASH & COASH, INC.
22	Court Reporting, Video & Videoconferencing 1802 North 7th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85006
23	602-258-1440 staff@coashandcoash.com
24	Prepared by:
25	LILIA MONARREZ, CSR, RPR Certificate No. 50699

Coash & Coash, Inc. 602-258-1440 www.coashandcoash.com

Page 2	09:32:22-09:33:16 Page
PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETING BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 9:31 a.m. on November 19, 2020, at the State of Arizona, Clean Elections Commission, 1616 West Adams, Conference Room, Phoenix, Arizona, in the presence of the following Board members:  Mr. Galen D. Paton, Chairperson Mr. Damien R. Meyer Ms. Amy B. Chan Mr. Mark S. Kimble Mr. Steve M. Titla  OTHERS PRESENT:  Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director Paula Thomas, Executive Officer Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director Mike Becker, Policy Director Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager Avery Oliver, Voter Education Specialist Julian Arndt, Executive Support Specialist Rivko Knox, AZ League of Women Voters Kara Karlson, Assistant Attorney General Kyle Cummings, Assistant Attorney General Kyle Cummings, Assistant Attorney General Heather Mrwiec, Public Cathy Herring, KCA	<ol> <li>reading the etiquette, I was told to raise my hand to</li> <li>speak, but I don't see the option on here. But can I</li> <li>make a motion to approve the minutes from the</li> <li>August 27th, 2020 and October 7th, 2020 meetings?</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. We have we have a</li> <li>motion.</li> <li>Do we have a second?</li> <li>MS. KARLSON: Mr. Chairman, before we take</li> <li>the vote</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes.</li> <li>MS. KARLSON: I noticed that</li> <li>Mr. Titla Commissioner Titla has joined us. So, you</li> <li>might want to add him to the roll before</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Commissioner Titla,</li> <li>are you here?</li> <li>COMMISSIONER TITLA: Hello?</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes.</li> <li>COMMISSIONER TITLA: Yeah, I'm here.</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: And there he is.</li> <li>COMMISSIONER TITLA: Good morning,</li> <li>everybody. Yeah. Thank you.</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Nice to have you.</li> <li>So, we have a motion to accept the</li> <li>COMMISSIONER TITLA: I'll second.</li> <li>CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Commissioner Titla</li> </ol>
09:31:15-09:32:18 Page 3	09:33:17-09:34:56 Page 8
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- 3 CHAIRMAN PATON: So, this is Chairman Galen
- 4 Paton, ready to call order. It's November 19th. I'm
- 5 calling this meeting of the Citizens Clean Elections
- 6 Commission to order. If -- we will take attendance.
- If -- Commissioner Chan, are you here? 7
- COMMISSIONER CHAN: I'm here. Good 8
- 9 morning.
- CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Meyer? 10
- 11 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Good morning.
- CHAIRMAN PATON: And Commissioner Kimble? 12
- 13 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Sorry. And I am
- 14 here.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. He's here.
- And I am Commissioner Galen Paton. I am 16
- 17 here, as well. So we have a quorum.
- And Item II: Discussion and possible 18
- 19 action on the minutes for the August 27th and
- 20 October 7th meetings.
- 21 Any discussion?
- 22 (No response.)
- CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, I have a motion to
- 24 approve -- can I have a motion to approve the August --
- COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, in 25

- 1 will second the motion, and we will do a roll call.
- Commissioner Chan, how do you vote?
- 3 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
- CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Meyer? 4
- 5 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Aye.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble?
- 7 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PATON: And Commissioner Titla?
- 9 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye.
- CHAIRMAN PATON: And Commissioner Galen 10
- 11 Paton votes ave, as well.
- Okay. Item III: Discussion and possible
- 13 action on Executive Director's report.
- 14 Mr. Collins?
- 15 MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Chairman Paton,
- 16 and Commissioners. Thanks for -- thank you for being
- 17 here. It's nice to actually be able to see everybody.
- With respect to the Executive Director's 18
- 19 report, which -- I had it up here -- I just wanted to
- hit some of the -- some of the highlights. We have had
- 21 a pretty active -- through the -- through the general
- 22 election, we had a very active voter education ongoing
- 23 effort, as you all probably would expect. We had -- we
- 24 had a lot of media interest in the, you know, mechanics
- 25 of the election. And because -- you know, because

09:35:01-09:36:13 Page 6 | 09:37:56-09:41:48 Page 8

- 1 those issues are more top of mind right now than they
- 2 have been, so we were prepared for that on a number of
- 3 different levels.
- 4 You know, we were able to provide
- 5 assistance to the media in terms of -- in terms of
- 6 accurate information about, you know, what was going on
- 7 that was -- you know, or how processes would work.
- 8 We -- you know, Gina had an ongoing role participating
- 9 with the -- with our weekly meetings with the -- with
- 10 the Native American Voter Communications Group that
- 11 included the Secretary of State's staff, as well. You
- 12 know, Avery has continued to be out there, as well.
- 13 They both -- both Gina and Avery combined did
- 14 presentations involving the Arizona Commission for the
- 15 Deaf and Hard of Hearing which, of course, we, also,
- 16 partnered with on our on ASL Voter Education Guide.
- 17 MS. ROBERTS: Excuse me, Tom.
- 18 MR. COLLINS: Yeah.
- 19 MS. ROBERTS: Tom, can I interrupt for just
- 20 a second?
- 21 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Yeah.
- MS. ROBERTS: Just to let the commissioners
- 23 know and Kara, too, so we actually were not
- 24 livestreaming on YouTube. There was a glitch, but we
- 25 are livestreaming now. So, it is possible that the

- 1 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Yeah, this is Steve
- 2 Titla. I make that motion.
- 3 MS. KARLSON: Sorry. That was keep going,
- 4 read back.
- 5 And for all the commissioners, because the
- 6 court reporter is just trying to read back the minutes
- 7 so that there's a full entry for people who were
- 8 attempting to watch live and missed this early part of
- 9 the meeting, if you can, please, keep your microphones
- 10 on mute while this -- while the court reporter finishes
- 11 reading this, that would be helpful.
- 12 (Read back.)
- 13 MS. KARLSON: Okay. Thank you guys for all
- 14 of that, and now I think we can return to business.
- 15 MR. COLLINS: Okay. Mr. Chairman, with
- 16 your permission, I'll just -- can I continue with
- 17 the --
- 18 CHAIRMAN PATON: Go ahead, Tom.
- 19 MR. COLLINS: Thank you. So, as you can
- 20 see from the report, you know, we highlighted a lot of
- 21 the ongoing voter education activities we had going on
- 22 leading up through the general election, really right
- 23 up through the election day itself. And so, we met --
- 24 so, Avery and Gina, particularly, met with a whole
- 25 variety of different groups in a variety of different

09:36:15-09:37:56 Page 7 09:41:54-09:43:23 Page 9

- 1 roll call and the action taken on the minutes was not
- 2 streamed live for the public to view. So -- but we are
- 3 definitely livestreaming now.
- 4 MR. COLLINS: Okay. Kara, do you want us
- 5 to do anything over, or what do you want to do?
- 6 MS. KARLSON: I don't think taking the roll
- 7 call is necessary.
- 8 MS. ROBERTS: And if it matters, Kara, too,
- 9 we do have a recording of it. So, we did get a
- 10 recording of the -- of all of the action. It just
- 11 wasn't livestreaming up until now.
- 12 MS. KARLSON: Okay.
- MS. THOMAS: And the court reporter is
- 14 doing a transcript, as well.
- 15 MS. KARLSON: Correct. If the court
- 16 reporter can read back the approval of the minutes and
- 17 the vote, I think that will make sure all the bases are
- 18 covered in terms of open meeting.
- 19 Is the court reporter able to do that?
- MR. COLLINS: We'll find out.
- 21 (Read back.)
- MS. KARLSON: Excuse me. I don't think
- 23 that the roll call is necessary. If you can just read
- 24 the motion to approve the minutes, the second and
- 25 the -- and the vote on that.

- 1 settings. So this way, you know, the technological --
- 2 this is another way in which some of the pivots we've
- 3 made to some of the technological platforms we have, I
- 4 think, has been helpful.
- 5 You know, I'll, also, say -- and we'll talk
- 6 more about this in the -- in the review of the -- in
- 7 the -- sort of the review of the general election, but
- 8 you know, we, you know, kept up with a considerable
- 9 amount of phone calls, emails throughout the --
- 10 throughout the election which, you know, Avery and
- 11 Julian, in particular, had a lot to do -- a lot of work 12 to do. And, then, Alec, obviously, kept our website
- 13 continually updated. As issues would develop that
- 14 would anticipate questions about, he would add to
- 15 those.
- So, Gina will talk more about that in our
- 17 next section, but I just wanted to sort of give a high
- 18 level on that.
- With respect to some of the cases we've
- 20 had, we had a -- we do still have one Court of Appeals
- 21 decision concerning the -- well, it really concerns the
- 22 late appeal by a group called the Legacy Fund -- the
- 23 Legacy Foundation Action Fund from the 2014 election.
- 24 That is currently at the Court of the Appeals and
- 25 pending a decision. We had some supplemental briefing

09:43:27-09:45:06 Page 10 | 09:46:22-09:47:20 Page 12

- 1 that we had to do that was due last week. So,
- 2 that's -- that's where that is.
- 3 No one has filed a petition for review in
- 4 the AZAN case that we talked about in our October
- 5 meeting, to my knowledge. So, that case should, at
- 6 some point, be remanded to the Maricopa -- the Superior
- 7 Court of Maricopa County.
- 8 And then, you know, finally, we have -- we
- 9 have -- we do have some open complaints and we may --
- 10 honestly, we anticipate probably a couple of more
- 11 complaints over the course of the next weeks as folks
- 12 sort out post-election issues.
- So, that's really the -- that's really the
- 14 report. I think I wanted to mention for all the
- 15 commissioners that Kara Karlson who, as you all know,
- 16 has been our long-time legal advisor, has been
- 17 appointed to the Developmental Disability Advisory
- 18 Council for the state by Governor Ducey, which was
- 19 exciting news. So, congratulations to Kara.
- 20 And then -- and then online with us today
- 21 is Kyle Cummings, who is an attorney joining the
- 22 section that the election attorneys have been in. I'm
- 23 sure you'll get a chance to meet Kyle in the coming
- 24 weeks and months.
- 25 So, that completes my report, unless anyone

- 1 election and educational effort as done by the Clean
- 2 Elections in various places in the state that I was. I
- 3 saw it on billboards, heard it on the radio, and I
- 4 think it was even on TV. So, I commend the executive
- 5 director and staff for a good job. Well done.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PATON: Thank you.
- 8 MR. COLLINS: Thank you.
- **9** CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other questions?
- **10** Comments?
- 11 (No response.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay.
- 13 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm
- 14 sorry.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yeah.
- 16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I raised my hand, but I
- 17 don't know if you saw it. And I was pretty late.
- 18 I just want to echo what Commissioner Titla
- 19 just said, that -- you know, compliment the staff on
- 20 a -- on a successful election cycle and a job well
- 21 done, especially under these circumstances with the
- 22 pandemic in the background. I think, you know, they
- 23 did a fantastic job under any circumstances, but
- 24 particularly under these circumstances. And, you know,
- 25 I just want to recognize that. So, thank you all very

09:45:09-09:46:16 Page 11 09:47:20-09:48:39 Page 13

- 1 has any questions for me, Mr. Chairman.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any questions for Tom?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 CHAIRMAN PATON: Actually, I have a
- 5 question for you. This is Galen Paton, by the way.
- 6 The number of participating candidates funded for the
- 7 general was 31.
- 8 Is that higher or lower than normal?
- **9** MR. COLLINS: That's a good question. I
- 10 would have to defer to Mike on that.
- 11 Mike, do you know?
- MR. BECKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners,
- 13 good morning. That number is about average over what
- 14 we've been having over the last couple of election
- 15 cycles. It's a tad bit higher but not by a whole lot.
- 16 So, we're pretty happy with it.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Any other
- 18 questions?
- 19 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Yeah, this --
- 20 Chairman, Steve Titla.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Titla.
- 22 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Yeah, I'd just like to
- 23 commend the Clean Elections commissioners and staff,
- 24 executive director for doing a good job in reaching out
- 25 to all the people in Arizona. I saw the notices of the

- 1 much.
- 2 And, in particular, I want to mention that
- 3 I had a friend reach out to me who was panicked on the
- 4 deadline to get a -- make a mail ballot request for her
- 5 mother who had had a stroke and was in a nursing home,
- 6 or long-term care facility, and outside of her county.
- 7 And Gina was able to facilitate with the home county,
- 8 as well as Maricopa, where the mom was living and is
- 9 still living, to make that happen. A special board was
- 10 able to go out with the Pinal ballot. I think somebody
- 11 came from Pinal County, actually, but with some help
- **12** from Maricopa.
- So, thank you, Gina. And I still need
- 14 to -- I wanted to write an email to the folks at Pinal
- 15 and Maricopa and recognize the staff over there that I
- 16 feel like -- I mean, I know that's their job, but I
- 17 really felt like that really mattered to my friend
- 18 and -- you know, who's a constituent. I mean, this is
- 19 just what happens in people's lives. You know, her mom
- 20 couldn't help herself to vote this time, and it was --
- 21 the timing was just that way; that she was having her
- 22 moms's mail forwarded to her, but of course, election
- 23 mail does not get forwarded.
- 24 So, there she was stuck, and it was, like,
- 25 1:00 o'clock on the last day to request a mail ballot

09:48:42-09:49:41 Page 14 09:51:03-09:52:11 Page 16

- 1 and she wasn't even really getting mail to -- in a
- 2 reliable way to this long-term care facility. So, it
- 3 really meant a lot to them, and her mom was thrilled to
- 4 be able to cast her ballot. And so, I wanted to
- 5 recognize Gina for that and the election workers for
- 6 that, as well.
- 7 So, thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other questions?
- 9 (No response.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any comment from the
- 11 audience on that, please signal the moderator. Yeah, I
- 12 don't even know. Am I supposed to be the moderator? I
- **13** don't even know.
- MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman. Cathy is
- 15 the -- is the moderator.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Because I'm not
- 17 like that technical.
- 18 MR. COLLINS: No.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Item IV:
- 20 Discussion and possible action on 2020 general election
- 21 overview. Tom is going to begin this and then it's up
- 22 to Gina.
- 23 Mr. Collins, go ahead.
- 24 MR. COLLINS: Okay. Thank you,
- 25 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I just want to, really

- 1 good morning.
- 2 Yeah, today we have a presentation for you
- 3 that is really more focused on the current events that
- 4 have been surrounding the election. Typically, we do a
- 5 presentation to the Commission more about our outreach
- 6 efforts and our metrics and statistics, and we'll have
- 7 that for you in January. So, today we're just really
- 8 going to focus on sort of the current events and the
- 9 issues that have been happening around the election.
- o I do have a presentation. You should have
- 11 it in your packet, but you can, also, follow along on
- 12 the screen. And I'm going to share my screen right
- 13 now, so give me one moment to share. And, hopefully,
- 14 you all can see my screen. If not, somebody please
- 15 jump in and let me know, but I'll keep going.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PATON: I see it.
- 17 MS. ROBERTS: Perfect. Thank you.
- 18 Okay. So, as we know, the general election
- 19 was held on Tuesday, November 3rd, this year. As Tom
- 20 mentioned, the turnout was one of the highest that
- 21 we've had. It's the highest that we've had in a while,
- 22 quite frankly. I think there was one year maybe in the
- 23 '60s where it was higher. I'd have to double-check
- 24 that, but in most recent years, we did great turnout
- 25 records. We were just shy of that 80 percent, but it

09:49:46-09:51:00 Page 15 09:52:14-09:53:24 Page 17

- 1 quickly, you know, hit some of the highlights. I know
- 2 that -- I mean, I know that Gina will take over here.
- 3 I just want to overview you of -- I just wanted to say
- 4 this by way of introduction. You know, obviously, I
  5 think we all know now that this is probably the most --
- 6 the highest turnout -- well, this is the highest
- 7 turnout election we've had in, perhaps -- well, in a
- 8 very, very long time. And our participation rates were
- 9 really -- were really incredibly high.
- You know, although we don't have a
- 11 certified statewide canvass yet that will finalize the
- 12 state election, you know, the counties of the state are
- 13 doing their certifications of their canvasses over the
- 14 course of the -- between now and next -- I think, 23rd,
- 15 which is -- and then a week from that is the statewide
- 16 canvass.
- So, I'm going to turn it over to Gina and
- 18 then I think we'll come back a little bit to talk about
- 19 what's going on, if anything, at this point with the --
- 20 some of the -- there is some litigation still out there
- 21 around this particular election.
- 22 So, Gina, you know -- and, Mr. Chairman, if
- 23 you don't mind, we'll take it over to Gina.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PATON: Go ahead.
- MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners,

- 1 was still really great to see all of the voters turn
- 2 out this year to participate.
- 3 So, some of the topics that we're going to
- 4 be covering today are voting during the pandemic, some
- 5 of the issues that happened with the United States
- 6 Postal Service, the voter registration deadline, ballot
- 7 by mail security, how long it takes to tabulate,
- 8 Sharpies, and how to confirm if your ballot was counted
- 9 and, of course, recounts about the election. And so,
- 10 I'll jump in.
- 11 About voting during the pandemic, so the
- 12 counties and the Secretary of State's Office and our
- 13 office, we've been doing a lot to educate voters
- 14 leading up to the election about the safety measures
- 15 that were going to be put in place to keep voters safe
- 16 if they decided to go vote in person, but also, a
- 17 strong education about the process for getting your
- 18 ballot by mail. That way, if the voter called and that
- 19 was in the best interest for them and their family,
- 20 they knew how to do it.
- 21 So, some of the things that the county did
- 22 to ensure voter safety at voting locations, there was
- 23 personal protective equipment for the poll workers.
- 24 They had sanitation protocols that they had to follow
- 25 and, of course, they implemented that social

09:53:25-09:54:32 Page 18 09:55:53-09:57:12 Page 20

- 1 distancing -- the social distancing guidelines, both
- 2 with markers where people knew where to stand, but
- 3 also, in spacing out the secrecy booths, the voting
- 4 booths and, also, looking for larger facilities, as
- 5 well, so that they could implement those distancing
- 6 requirements.
- And many of our counties this year -- we
- 8 saw a large increase in the availability of ballot drop
- 9 boxes. These are secure drop boxes located throughout
- 10 the county where a voter could drop in their voted
- 11 ballot, sort of like a mailbox, if you will. So, we
- 12 saw a lot of those available, and it's just another
- 13 option for voters and how they can return their ballot.
- 14 And as far as the education goes for what
- 15 voters can do, we did educate them on all of these
- 16 measures that the county took to ensure their safety,
- 17 but also, for voters, considering your options, whether
- 18 it's, you know, voting early when there's probably
- 19 going to be less people at the voting locations,
- 20 considering ballot by mail and coming prepared, knowing
- 21 who you're going to vote for. That way you can limit
- 22 your time in the actual voting location, and to mask up
- 23 and maintain those physical distancing and all of those
- 24 CDC guidelines, as well.
- 25 And we did launch a campaign to recruit

- 1 are. So, making your request as soon as possible to
- 2 get an early ballot by mail if you're not already on
- 3 PEVL, how to do that, and voting that ballot as soon as
- 4 possible and returning it by mail, if that's your plan,
- 5 but if you don't want to return it by mail, those drop
- 6 boxes that I mentioned earlier are available. And, of
- course, all voting locations in your county can -- you
- can drop your ballot off there, too.
- So, we, also, had to dispel some myths, as
- 10 well, such as don't put a stamp on your early ballot
- 11 return envelop because postage is prepaid. And so,
- some voters were thinking, well, maybe if I add more
- stamps, that can speed up the process if I send it back
- 14 as first-class mail. So, we had to have a discussion
- about how this mail is processed and actually impacted.
- If you add a stamp, that can delay the processing time.
- So, there was a lot of -- a lot of focus on how to vote
- and what the impact -- potential changes at the United
- States Postal Service could impact that.
- 20 So -- and already Arizona is a very strong
- 21 vote-by-mail state. About 80 percent of our voters
- 22 already voted by mail. In the primary election, we saw
- 88 percent of the vote was done by early ballots. So,
- we were taking efforts to, basically, let voters know
- 25 that we have the system in place. We have the

09:54:35-09:55:51 Page 19 09:57:15-09:58:30 Page 21

- 1 poll workers, in participation with the Secretary of
- 2 State's Office. That way we could ensure that the
- 3 counties had the staff that they needed for those
- 4 voting locations. There were some concerns about, you
- 5 know, when we look at who was high risk in terms of
- 6 COVID-19 and who our typical poll workers are. We
- 7 wanted to make sure that the counties had the necessary
- 8 staff in terms of poll workers. So, we did participate
- 9 in recruiting poll workers, as well.
- So, the next topic is the United States 10
- 11 Postal System. This proved to require a lot of voter
- 12 education and a lot of concerns from voters. The
- 13 United States Postal System, they advised that there
- 14 should be a minimum of a 15-day roundtrip for both
- 15 requesting and returning a ballot by mail. So, what
- 16 does that mean for Arizona voters? Our Arizona
- 17 statutes allow a voter to make a request for a ballot
- 18 by mail 11 days before the election. So, if you do the
- 19 math there, then that does not equate to the full
- 20 15-day roundtrip to both receive and return their vote 21 of ballot by mail.
- 22 So, our office -- and, again, in
- 23 conjunction with the counties and the Secretary of
- 24 State's Office, we focus highly on educating the voters
- 25 about, you know, what this means and what their options

- 1 infrastructure in place. We have a long prior history
- 2 of voting by mail. We are not a state that is just
- 3 putting this together in the past six months. We --
- 4 you know, we've got this system very well in place.
- 5 And so, voters can have confidence in the system.
- And all of this, also, included how to
- track your ballot. So, voters can track the status of
- their early ballot online. Maricopa County has a
- wonderful text and email alert system, and so we were
- educating voters on how they can track their ballot
- themselves so they can have confidence in knowing that
- 12 their ballot is on their way to them and that it was
- 13 received back.
- 14 Another --
- COMMISSIONER MEYER: I'm sorry, Gina. I 15
- 16 have a quick question for you. On that last slide, the
- 17 80 percent --
- (Speaker clarification.) 18
- COMMISSIONER MEYER: This is Damien Meyer,
- and my question was on the 80 percent figure of Arizona
- 21 voters voting by mail.
- Do we know the breakdown of what percentage
- of those drop off on election day or after the mail
- 24 deadline? I'm just curious because that is what
- 25 creates -- that's what takes longer to count, right, is

09:58:35-09:59:45 Page 22 10:01:00-10:02:06 Page 24

- 1 those folks who drop off their early ballots on
- **2** election day or the couple days before.
- 3 Do we know that number?
- 4 MS. ROBERTS: Chairman, Commissioner Meyer,
- 5 I don't know that number for this election. I can tell
- 6 you that that is data that we would love to have and to
- 7 know, and so we can definitely work with the counties
- 8 to try to research that a little bit more. Usually the
- 9 data that is made publicly is the amount of ballots
- 10 that were not counted, that were rejected because they
- 11 were received after the deadline. And just in the
- 12 numbers that we're recording, you know, after election
- 13 day, the counties still had several hundred thousand --
- 14 I mean, we -- after election day, I think there were
- 15 about 600,000 ballots around that time.
- And, Tom, feel free to correct me on that
- 17 number, but I think there were around 600,000 ballots
- **18** that still needed to be tabulated post November 3rd.
- 19 So, there's definitely quite a bit. And, again, you
- 20 know, that comes down to, you know, the voter has the
- 21 right to drop it off up until 7:00 p.m. on election
- 22 day, but we did take education efforts to let people
- 23 know to return it as soon as possible because of the
- 24 impact that that can have.
- 25 So, in particular, this year the counties

- 1 MR. COLLINS: It's not something -- it's
- 2 not something I have control over.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Oh, okay.
- 4 MR. COLLINS: And, Gina, you know, you
- 5 can -- I don't mean to step in here. I was just going
- 6 to ask -- to answer Commissioner Meyer's question on
- 7 the second -- the question directly about the -- what's
- 8 been discussed about this, I wanted to -- it's sort of
- 9 a two-part answer, from my perspective. So, I don't
- 10 know, Gina, if you want to go first or how do you want
- 11 to --
- MS. ROBERTS: Well, I think the additional
- 13 comments that I would provide are that the legislature
- 14 did make a law change, and I reference this with when
- 15 the counties can begin tabulating. So, it used to be
- 16 seven days, and the legislature made the change where
- 17 counties can begin tabulating 14 days before the
- 18 election. And many of our counties have new election
- 19 equipment. Maricopa, in particular, purchased new
- 20 election equipment, and those two procedures -- or
- 21 those two items right there all contribute to a faster
- 22 count time, faster tabulation time.
- So, we -- from what I am seeing so far this
- 24 particular election cycle, during a pandemic, during
- 25 the highest turnout that we've actually seen,

09:59:46-10:01:00 Page 23 10:02:08-10:03:24 Page 25

- 1 were able to begin tabulating 14 days before the
- 2 election. I believe that ended up being October 20th.
- 3 And so, we did provide voter education about, hey, you
- 4 know, counties can begin tabulating today; get your
- 5 ballot in. You know, the results that are posted on
- 8:00 p.m. on election night, those are all of the early
- 7 ballots that are counted up until that point. So, we
- 8 did do a push, along with our election official
- 9 partners, to encourage people to return their ballot as
- 10 soon as possible and, in particular, because of the
- 11 issues that we were seeing and the concerns over the
- 12 impacts and potential mailing delays with USPS.
- But that data would be very interesting to
- 14 have because it, also, can impact the timing of our
- 15 messaging, as well. So, we will be looking forward to
- **16** getting that information in the future but -- yeah.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Is there -- and I'm
- 18 not going to say it's a problem, but it just kind
- **19** limits efficiency.
- 20 Is there any discussion on a way to sort of
- 21 address that issue that makes it a little less --
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
- 23 Mever --
- 24 COMMISSIONER MEYER: If someone is
- 25 landscaping, if they can turn --

- 1 tabulation occurred actually really well. The
- 2 counties, I think, were spot-on in their efforts in
- 3 getting those ballots counted.
- 4 There are by law -- by law we can't
- 5 actually finish tabulating five days after the election
- 6 because there is a statutory cure period where voters
- 7 have the right to verify their signature if there's any
- 8 concerns when the counties are doing the signature
- 9 verification on early ballots and, also, five days
- 10 after the election for federal election for conditional
- 11 provisional ballots where voters need to provide their
- **12** follow-up I.D.
- So, you know, when we look at that time
- 14 period between -- we know we can't start -- or we can't
- 15 complete tabulation before five days after the election
- 16 and the counties have, by law, 6 to 20 days after the
- 17 election to finish tabulating. I think that the
- L8 counties were in a really good spot with where they
- 19 landed. And then, also, when that tabulation does
- 20 complete -- does finish, it's still not ready to be
- 21 canvassed yet because of all the other post-election
- activities that need to be taken -- undertaken, such as logic and accuracy testing and the hand counts, all of
- 24 that -- all of those procedures that are done to verify
- **25** the tabulated votes.

10:03:25-10:04:30 Page 26 | 10:05:56-10:07:05 Page 28

- So, Tom, I don't know if you want to add
- 2 more to that, but those were the additional thoughts
- 3 that I had on that matter.
- 4 MR. COLLINS: No. I just wanted to add two
- 5 things, but unfortunately, I am not going to be able to
- 6 do that.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. This is --
- 8 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman?
- 9 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes.
- 10 MS. ROBERTS: I was just going to ask if I
- 11 should proceed.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead.
- MS. ROBERTS: Okay. Thank you,
- 14 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners.
- 15 We'll jump forward to voter registration.
- 16 So, the statute does state that the voter registration
- 17 deadline is 29 days before the election. That would
- 18 have put us at October 5th for the general election.
- 19 There was a lawsuit where the Court ruled for an
- 20 extension to October 23rd at 5:00 p.m., and then that
- 21 was appealed and we ended on where the actual voter
- 22 registration deadline ended up being October 15th. So,
- 23 there was a grace period involved there.
- 24 So, there was some uncertainty about any
- 25 voters that submitted a voter registration form after

- 1 vote, basically, just a lot of questions about is this
- 2 a secure process and can I trust it.
- 3 So, our office -- we had really great
- 4 information on our website. We had a page just about
- 5 voting by mail in this particular election, what the
- 6 process is, how USPS is going to impact it, and then we
- 7 had another page about the security of it, all of the
- 8 checks and balances that are placed beginning with such
- 9 as the 90-day notice, where the counties send a notice
- 10 90 days before the election to every registered voter
- 11 that is on the permanent early voting list to confirm
- 12 that that voter still is at that address and that they
- 13 still do want to get their ballot by mail.
- We've talked about the signature
- 15 verification portion which confirms the voter's
- 16 identity, how that is undertaken. We've talked about
- 17 how to confirm the status of your ballot, such as
- 18 tracking it, but also, to confirm that it was accepted
- 19 and counted. So, our office and the website had a lot
- 20 of great information to address all of the concerns
- 21 that we were hearing about from voters about the
- 22 overall security of ballot by mail.
- And, you know, it's very important to know
- 24 that, as I mentioned before, Arizona has this
- 25 long-standing infrastructure on voting by mail. We've

10:04:35-10:05:53 Page 27 10:07:08-10:08:18 Page 29

- 1 October 5th, would they be eligible to vote in the
- 2 general election. And so, the final ruling on that was
- 3 any voter who was registered by October 15th at 11:59
- 4 p.m. would be eligible to vote, but during that time
- 5 period and the uncertainty of what was happening, both
- 6 Tom and I participated in a lot of communications both
- 7 with the media and our office, of course, with voters
- 8 about this issue. So, that was another issue that came
- 9 up about the election.
- And moving ahead to ballot by mail
- 11 security. So, we did talk about the issues at USPS and
- 12 what that can mean for ballot by mail, but there were a
- 13 lot of concerns about the overall security, how secure
- 14 is voting by mail. There were myths that were out
- 15 there, such as, you know, the counties sent ballots to
- 16 everybody, and that's not true. They only go to voters
- 17 who are registered and have made a request for a
- 18 ballot. So, vetting has already been done to ensure
- 19 that it is a registered voter who is receiving that
- 20 ballot.
- 21 There were concerns about, you know, do
- 22 early ballots even count; how do I know if the county
- 23 got my ballot; how do I know if it was counted; can
- 24 somebody switch my vote; can I trust the postman with
- 25 my ballot; how do I know that they're not changing my

- 1 been doing it since the '90s, and while there's
- 2 concerns not -- at a national level, perhaps with other
- 3 states that maybe don't have a long-standing history
- 4 with the vote-by-mail process, you know, we know that
- 5 voters were, also, hearing concerns at a national
- 6 level
- 7 And so, it was really important for us to
- 8 just highlight that Arizona, in fact, is really
- 9 advanced when it comes to voting by mail. So, that's
- 10 some of the education that we undertook.
- And I'll jump forward to ballot tabulation
- 12 time, which we talked a little bit about already. So,
- 13 according to statute, the counties do have 6 to 20 days
- 14 to canvass their election. So, it's important to note
- 15 that, basically, the process is 14 days before the
- 16 election, counties can start tabulating all of those
- 17 early ballots that come in. 8:00 p.m. -- 8:00 p.m. on
- 18 election night is when the first round of results are
- 19 released, and those are all of the early ballots that
- 20 have been tabulated up until that point.
- 21 And, then, the remaining time on election
- 22 night, those are all -- the results that come in are23 all of the voting locations from election day that are
- 24 being reported. Then, after election night, the
- 25 counties are processing all of those early ballots that

10:08:21-10:09:31 Page 30 10:10:52-10:11:56 Page 32

- 1 were turned in either right before or on election day
- 2 and the provisional ballots. So, those are the ballots
- 3 that the counties have to process after election day.
- 4 As I mentioned, that five-day period both
- 5 procuring your signature on your early ballot if the
- 6 counties have any questions when they're verifying your
- 7 signature, they'll attempt to contact you. And, then,
- 8 if you did not provide sufficient I.D. at the polls,
- 9 then you need to follow up with them five days, as
- 10 well, to get your conditional provisional ballot to
- 11 count. And, then, there's the post-election activities
- 12 that occur to verify the accuracy of the tabulation.
- So, that includes those -- there's a logic
- 14 and accuracy testing that is done in every piece of
- 15 equipment that is used in the election both before and
- 16 after the election. There is a hand count that is done
- 17 in -- in conjunction with the political parties, and
- 18 that's done on a random sample of the votes. And so,
- 19 there's just a lot of procedures still after the
- 20 election that counties need to undertake, all -- that
- 21 all leads to the integrity and the accuracy of the
- 22 process.
- When that is completed, when the county
- 24 election officials have completed that, then it goes to
- 25 the County Board of Supervisors to officially adopt the

- 1 answer is absolutely yes.
- 2 So, Maricopa County did purchase new
- 3 election equipment this year and through -- after
- 4 thorough testing and using the manufacturer's
- 5 recommendation and even changing their ballot design,
- 6 Sharpies were the recommended writing instrument on
- 7 election day. And that's very important to
- 8 distinguish. On election day, Sharpies were the
- 9 recommended writing instrument, and that's what the
- 10 counties purchased and provided at the polling place
- 11 for voters.
- Now, the reason why is because the ink on
- 13 the Sharpie dries fastest. And so, when you're voting
- 14 on election day, when the voter completes their ballot,
- 15 they then feed it through the tabulator machine
- 16 directly at the polling place. And so, once that ink
- 17 is dry, it works better with the tabulation machine.
- 18 You don't want to run a ballot through the tabulator
- 19 when the ink is still wet. That can cause some
- 20 problems. So, that's why the counties chose Sharpies
- 21 for election day voters. They, also, designed their
- 22 ballot in such a way that any bleed-through would not
- 23 impact any other races on the ballot. So, there
- 24 wouldn't be concerns for over-votes, for example.
- 25 This -- I will say that these concerns, the

10:09:33-10:10:48 Page 31 10:12:00-10:13:17 Page 33

- 1 results. Once the County Board of Supervisors adopts
- 2 the canvass, that is forwarded to the Secretary of
- 3 State's Office, and the Secretary of State aggregates
- 4 all of the 15 results and they adopt the official
- 5 canvass. And that is done on the fourth Monday
- 6 following the general election. So, the official
- 7 canvass has not occurred yet. That will occur on
- 8 November 30th.
- 9 And, basically, all of the information that
- 10 I just provided there, we had a lot of inquiries from
- 11 voters about what happened. And so, again, we were
- 12 able to create some great content for our website to
- 13 drive people to about what the process is that happens
- 14 after election day.
- Sharpies -- let's see -- we're going to
- 16 start on this one. So, Sharpies. In Maricopa County,
- 17 voters, on election day, were issued Sharpies at the
- 18 polling place. This lead to some confusion and
- 19 misinformation about what is the correct writing
- 20 instrument that is needed to fill out a ballot. When
- 21 voters were completing their ballot with the Sharpie,
- 22 several voters noticed that the ink bled through onto
- 23 the other side of their ballot and this led to concerns
- 24 about, well, is that going to impact my vote? Will the 25 machine be able to read my ballot correctly? And the

- 1 concerns that voters had and the misinformation about
- 2 this, spread very quickly. And so, we were seeing our
- 3 office inundated with phone calls and emails about, you
- 4 know, whether or not their ballot would be counted.
- 5 And so, we had to do some voter education on the
- 6 polling place procedures that, yes, those were the
- 7 official instruments that were -- that were provided to
- 8 voters and how Maricopa had new equipment and their
- 9 ballot design and, basically, everything that I just
- 10 shared.
- We had to educate voters on that process to
- 12 calm their concerns about will my ballot count. And,
- 13 you know, we, also, talked about if for any reason the
- 14 tabulator cannot read a ballot, what happens then. And
- 15 that is, it goes to a duplication board where it's
- 16 adjudicated electronically. So, basically, if the
- 17 tabulator spits out a ballot, then it goes to a
- 18 bipartisan duplication board after the election. So --
- **19** let me clarify.
- When the voter feeds their ballot at the
- 21 polling place, then it's counted right then and there.
- 22 Now, if for some reason the machine is not counting it
- and the voter -- let's say the voter just says, oh, go
- 24 ahead and submit it. It goes into a ballot drop box or
- 25 there's not a tabulator there at the polling place, and

10:13:19-10:14:27 Page 34 10:15:44-10:17:06 Page 36

- 1 it goes back to the county for processing. When they
- 2 run it through their high-speed tabulator, if the
- 3 machine kicks it out, then it goes to a bipartisan
- 4 duplication board, and the duplication board recreates
- 5 the voter's ballot on to a readable ballot that is then
- 6 ran through the tabulator back at central count.
- 7 So, really what I'm getting at is that if
- 8 you voted on election day, your ballot absolutely
- 9 counted. Either you fed it through the tabulator and
- 10 counted it yourself right then and there or it went
- 11 back to the county to be duplicated or adjudicated.
- 12 And so, there were a lot of concerns about, well, how
- 13 do I know for sure if my ballot was counted. So, we
- 14 had to educate voters on what information is available
- 15 to them online to verify them themselves.
- 16 If you voted in early ballot, there's a
- 17 process for looking at your early ballot and confirming
- 18 it was verified, the signature was verified and was
- 19 counted. If you voted on election day, then, as I
- 20 mentioned, you either fed it through the tabulator and
- 21 it counted right then and there right in front of you
- 22 or, if it went back to central count, then it was
- 23 absolutely counted, but the voter's voting history
- 24 will, also, be updated. And it will show that the
- 25 voter did, in fact, vote in the election, and that's

- 1 mystifies me -- and I just want to say this on the
- 2 record, that people act like election officials haven't
- 3 thought out every single eventuality for every single
- 4 situation for any variable, you know, and, for example,
- 5 you know, Sharpies, torn ballots, ballots with coffee
- 6 spilled on them, et cetera, et cetera. You know, Gina
- 7 mentioned, you know, ballot duplication boards.
- 8 I mean, I know the average voter doesn't
- 9 know all this stuff and they're not expected to, but
- 10 the lack of faith in our system, the fact that suddenly
- 11 the average voter doesn't trust our system, I think, is
- 12 indicative of the fact that the leaders of the parties,
- 13 maybe -- well, maybe not both parties, but -- I mean, I
- **14** hate to say that, but I can just feel like in the news
- 15 I'm seeing every day there's a distinct difference, for
- 16 partisan reasons, it seems -- and I'm just saying what
- 17 I'm seeing in the news -- that we're seeing, you know,
- 18 aspersions cast on our election officials, and it's
- 19 really disturbing to see that.
- 20 You know, Helen Purcell led that office in
- 21 Maricopa County for years. She was a professional.
- 22 She did an excellent job, led the office with
- 23 integrity. I was devastated when she lost her
- 24 election, and I'll say that I was nervous when we had a
- 25 new recorder. I think Adrian Fontes rose to the

10:14:29-10:15:39 Page 35 | 10:17:10-10:18:26 Page 37

- 1 available online, as well, too.
- 2 So, we had to have a lot of conversations
- 3 with voters and put voter education out there about
- 4 this process and what it means. We did produce a page
- 5 on our website to talk about this and we, also,
- 6 followed up and let voters know, when Maricopa County
- 7 completed their hand count, there was 100 percent
- 8 accuracy there. They, also, had 100 percent accuracy
- 9 on both -- on their post L&As, as well.
- 10 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Gina -- Mr. Chairman
- 11 and Gina, can I just make a comment here? This is Amy
- 12 Chan.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead.
- 14 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you.
- You know, I know -- you know, I've worked
- 16 in elections in one way or another since 2001. And, I
- 17 mean, I started at the legislature working with just
- 18 the policy, like the legislative language, but Helen
- 19 Purcell and Karen Osborne and Linda Weedon gave me an
- 20 opportunity to be a troubleshooter for Maricopa County
- 21 learning hands on, working elections on election day
- 22 every election until I started at the Secretary of
- 23 State's Office and I couldn't work for them anymore
- **24** because I had my own job on election day in 2008.
- 25 So, I've worked elections that long, and it

- 1 challenge. I think he's done an excellent job. And I
- 2 hope the same for this new recorder, but the fact is we
- 3 have laws on the books. We have procedures in the
- 4 manual
- 5 When people go into -- on election day, for
- 6 example, even back in 2002 when I worked my first
- 7 election, you know, if your ballot is -- if power goes
- 8 down, for example, and the tabulator doesn't work at
- 9 the election polling place or vote center now, you just
- 10 put it in the machine and they'll do it at election
- 11 central. It doesn't mean that your ballot doesn't
- 12 count. It's just -- there's always a way to ensure
- 13 that your ballot counts.
- And the fact that people have no confidence
- 15 anymore, in a general sense, is disturbing to me. And
- 16 I do think that, you know, that's a huge factor here
- 17 because it's not -- it's not the fault of the election
- 18 officials. The election officials have this covered,
- 19 you know. So, nothing that Gina is explaining to us is
- 20 new, aside from the equipment, of course, but the
- 21 equipment has been around for a long time. I mean,
- 22 it's all certified. I don't think it's brand-new by23 any means, other than to Maricopa County.
- So, I just felt like that needed to be said
- 25 on the record, you know. None of this is new, and it's

10:18:30-10:19:43 Page 38 | 10:20:53-10:22:08 Page 40

- 1 not -- we have a lot of redundancies and ways to handle
- 2 anything you can come up with for auditing and ensuring
- 3 that everything goes right and any -- anything that is
- 4 broken is fixed.
- 5 So, thank you for letting me pipe in here.
- 6 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
- 7 Chan, if I could add kind of my own thoughts to that,
- 8 as well for you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes. Go ahead.
- 10 MS. ROBERTS: I will say this year has
- 11 definitely been the year for voter education. I will
- 12 say that I have seen it at the forefront, and it's been
- 13 critical in ensuring confidence in the system. In my
- 14 experience, I've never seen voters more interested in
- 15 wanting to learn about more of those details, the very
- 16 specifics about how elections are administrated. And I
- 17 will say what I have seen so far -- and I've had a lot
- 18 of communication with voters in the past few weeks --
- 19 is that anytime there is a change, change causes
- 20 suspicion a little bit, and this was a change for
- 21 voters, especially visual, the visual of seeing that
- 22 ink bleed through.
- 23 And so, because there was such change --
- 24 and I didn't say this before, but I should clarify.
- 25 There was a difference when you voted early in person.

- 1 also, used in the PPE, in the Presidential Preference
- 2 Election, and in the Primary Election, but I, also,
- 3 think this was, also, the year of the ability for
- 4 misinformation to spread like rapid fire on social
- 5 medial, as well, too. So, all of those challenges, I
- 6 think, had an effect on this particular issue.
- 6 tillik, had all effect off tills particular issue.
- 7 Okay. Now, Mr. Chairman, I'll proceed.
- 8 So, again, this all culminated in how do I know if my
- 9 ballot was counted. So, we provided information and
- 10 the necessary links on our website, on social media to
- 11 let people know how they could confirm their ballot was
- 12 counted. There was a little bit of -- well, I
- 13 shouldn't say "a little bit," but there was some
- 14 misunderstanding about, also, how to read this
- 15 information online.
- So, if a voter voted on election day and
- 17 they were actually sent an early ballot -- so, they did
- 18 not vote the early ballot that was sent to them and
- 19 instead they voted on election day, when the voter
- 20 looked up their early ballot status online, it said
- 21 "cancelled," and this led to more confusion about
- 22 people thinking their vote was cancelled. It is
- 23 correct that that early ballot would be cancelled
- 24 because it is a safeguard to ensure that the voter does
- 25 not vote twice because they voted on election day. So,

10:19:47-10:20:51 Page 39 10:22:10-10:23:28 Page 41

- 1 When you voted early in person in Maricopa County, you
- 2 were issued a ballpoint pen. And the instructions when
- 3 you vote by mail at home, you're told to use a
- 4 ballpoint pen, but you can, also, use a Sharpie, as
- 5 well, too.
- 6 The reason why the Sharpies were necessary
- 7 on election day was because of that fast-drying ink and
- 8 the ability to be able to feed it through the
- 9 tabulator. When you are voting early in person or
- 10 early at home, your ballot is not fed through a
- 11 tabulating machine. It still has to go through the
- 12 signature verification process.
- And so -- and, then, also, the timing of
- 14 when records are updated, the timing of when the county
- 15 has updated the voter's record, whether it was an early
- 16 ballot that was counted or your voter history or if you
- 17 voted on election day, too. A lot of folks weren't
- 18 seeing -- well, you know, my spouse's record is updated
- 19 but mine is not and we voted at the same time. So, I
- 20 think all of those pieces, also, had a play in there,
- 21 but I think the voter education aspect of it really was
- **22** prominent this year.
- 23 And I know Maricopa County did do voter
- 24 education about their new equipment and the use of
- 25 Sharpies. And Sharpies and this new equipment was,

- 1 that early ballot will be cancelled.
- 2 If you voted on election day, you would not
- 3 confirm that your vote was counted through the early
- 4 ballot status application online. You would look at
- 5 your voter history. So, that, also, led to some
- 6 misinformation out there that we, also, had to help
- 7 provide voter education on.
- 8 Recounts. Our office has, also, received a
- 9 lot of communication from voters demanding that
- 10 recounts occur, and so this was an opportunity for us
- 11 to educate voters about the statutes and when a
- 12 recount -- when an automatic recount is triggered and
- 13 when it does occur and how that process works. So, we
- 14 did share that information on our website, and then we,
- 15 also, did provide, on our website, if somebody can
- **16** challenge the results of the election.
- So, there's been a lot of communication
- 18 from voters who are demanding that a recount occur, and
- 19 I think it's important to go back to some of the
- 20 original voter education that we provided and those
- 21 safeguards and those post-election day processes that
- 22 the counties undertake. And I think it's important to
- 23 state that in Arizona, we vote with paper ballots, and24 those paper ballots are read through the electronic
- 25 tabulators. And we never take the electronic

10:23:30-10:24:40 Page 42 10:26:11-10:27:38 Page 44

- 1 tabulators for word. We do testing on them.
- So, prior to every election, the
- 3 equipment -- the election management system is all
- 4 programmed, and it's unique to that particular
- 5 election. And there's testing done both before and
- 6 after the election both by the counties and the
- 7 Secretary of State's Office to ensure the accuracy of
- 8 these tabulation machines.
- And then, in addition to that, then there's
- 10 the random sample of the hand counts that are done and,
- 11 again, all of this is done under the observation and
- 12 participation with political parties. And there's live
- 13 camera feeds that the voters can view, and the voters
- 14 can, also, serve on a board. The voters -- voters can
- 15 serve as poll workers. Voters can be a part of this
- 16 process, and it's very transparent. And all of those
- 17 mechanisms and those procedures are put in place to
- 18 ensure that the results are accurate.
- And so, Arizona's law does allow for an 19
- 20 automatic recount, and that's when we meet certain
- 21 thresholds. And so, if the official canvass shows that
- 22 an automatic recount is triggered, then what would
- 23 happen is the Secretary of State's Office would get a
- 24 court action to authorize that recount and then the
- 25 counties would recount that particular -- that

- 1 you know, want to stress that, you know, one of the
- 2 things that Commissioner -- that Chairman Paton had
- 3 talked about throughout the run-up in terms of our
- 4 voter education was about how important it was for
- 5 folks to get their ballots back in a timely fashion.
- I do think that, you know, given the
- 600,000, or so, and the overall volume -- I think that
- that emphasis on getting things back resulted in the
- count going more quickly than it, otherwise, would
- have. And you will notice that, to the extent folks
- are talking about their issues with this election, it's
- 12 not related to the specific, like, idea that because
- the count is taking X amount of days, there's something
- 14 suspect about that. So, I think that's an insight that
- 15 Chairman Paton had that was important.
- And then, you know, I, also, think that 16
- 17 based on what Gina's -- you know, assessment here, I
- think that there's still a siloing of voter education
- efforts among counties, the Secretary's Office and our
- office, and what that means is that, although there
- are -- and as Commissioner Chan pointed out --
- procedures for everything, there's not necessarily an
- explanation -- there's not necessarily a 500-foot view
- or a 35,000-foot view of what that looks like.
- The cancelling ballot issue, for example,

10:24:41-10:26:08 Page 43 10:27:45-10:28:55 Page 45

- 1 particular race.
- So -- let's see. Our next slide -- oh, and
- 3 I did want to share this information before we leave
- 4 the recount section. We've had a lot of national
- 5 election experts, national cyber security experts.
- 6 We've had national experts on -- mathematicians and
- 7 code. All of our experts have, basically, come out and
- 8 said that this was one of the most secure elections in
- 9 history and it was done during a pandemic. And there 10 were statements put out by the Maricopa County Board of
- 11 Supervisors about the accuracy of Maricopa's tabulation
- 12 and the efforts that were put in place.
- So, I just wanted to share that we are 13
- 14 hearing from the election officials and the experts
- 15 that there's no evidence that any tampering was done
- 16 with the votes and that it was a very secure election
- 17 this year.
- And, Tom, if you want to take over the 18
- 19 legal updates section.
- 20 MR. COLLINS: Hopefully. The -- I just
- 21 wanted to amplify a bit quick about what Gina just
- 22 said. I mean, I don't think we've ever had a year
- 23 where the questions that we were getting online and on 24 the phone so clearly correlated with an event that was
- 25 in the news or, otherwise, being discussed. I, also,

- 1 you know -- you know, there's -- there's room there for
- 2 us to, hopefully, continue to build those relationships
- 3 so that when those things get logged, we can say, hey,
- 4 what's the question we're going to get on this? It's
- 5 going to be what does "cancelled" mean, you know, those
- 6 kind of things, which I think we have the credibility
- established and, also, the attitude and means to assist
- 8 with. So, I'm hopeful that we can continue in that
- 9 direction.
- Finally, just to hit -- and before I get 10
- 11 into the legal stuff, just to hit Commissioner Meyer's
- question about, you know, what would change
- dramatically the count time -- I mean, my
- 14 understanding, for example, is California is still
- counting ballots. It's just that nobody cares, you
- 16 know. So --
- 17 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Tom, are you saying
- 18 that five million vote lead is probably going to hold
- 20 MR. COLLINS: I anticipate that, but you
- 21 know -- but -- yeah, but I mean, my point is, like, I
- 22 mean, there was -- you know, there's so -- it's just --
- you know, but the most dramatic thing that's been 24 suggestive of legislature in the past couple of years
- 25 would be something along the lines of, say, if you get

10:28:58-10:30:31 Page 46 | 10:32:04-10:33:02 Page 48

- 1 your ballot by mail, you have to return it by mail.
- 2 And -- and so -- or something along those lines.
- 3 So, what that would mean -- I mean, in
- 4 other words, the way the system is currently set up,
- 5 voters have, essentially, the most amount of options to
- 6 cast their ballots, but there is a tradeoff the more
- 7 options you have to cast your ballot, so long as you
- 8 meet the 7:00 p.m. deadline on election day that, you
- 9 know, there's a back end time cost on that. So, that's
- 10 part of the trade-off.
- 11 With respect to the cases, there are -- to
- 12 the best of my knowledge, there are two cases that are
- 13 still alive. So, let me just kind of hit these
- 14 quickly. The Aguilera v. Fontes 1, which is the first
- 15 bullet point, that was a case specifically, I think,
- 16 about -- well, specifically, basically, about the
- 17 Sharpie issue. The Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed
- 18 that case and then -- and then -- and then later
- 19 refiled a slightly different case, which is Aguilera v.
- 20 Fontes 2, which is the last bullet point. That case --
- 21 the second case is still, as far as I know, not been
- 22 dismissed.
- 23 The second case, Donald J. Trump for
- 24 President v. Hobbs, was different from many of the
- 25 other cases in one respect. It was not a case that was

- So, it's a little bit different. In other
- 2 words, putting aside the presidential election, the
- 3 Trump -- the Trump v. Hobbs case is really a more
- 4 standard, let's make sure all our potential votes are
- 5 in the hopper before the canvass.
- 6 Republican Party v. Fontes --
- 7 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman?
- 8 MR. COLLINS: Sorry.
- 9 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman, if I
- 10 could ask a question.
- 11 MR. COLLINS: I think we have a --
- 12 COMMISSIONER MEYER: So, Tom, just so I
- 13 understand, I think that the Trump for President versus
- 14 Hobbs case, that only dealt with something, like, 180
- 15 ballots --
- 16 MR. COLLINS: That's correct.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MEYER: -- in the Presidential
- 18 Election, right?
- 19 MR. COLLINS: Right.
- 20 COMMISSIONER MEYER: It was so
- 21 miniscule that it couldn't affect the outcome. So,
- 22 that's why it went away, correct?
- MR. COLLINS: That's right, but the point
- 24 is that the Trump lawyers said from the beginning, we
- 25 would like -- this is -- this only matters to us if it

10:30:36-10:32:01 Page 47 10:33:06-10:34:22 Page 49

- 1 about changing the results or changing a process. It
- 2 was about challenging whether the way in which you cast
- 3 a ballot at a polling place on election day where you
- 4 get the choice to press the green button to cast the
- 5 ballot, which if you have an over-vote means that
- 6 over-vote is not going to get reviewed, is different
- 7 from the process for mail-in ballots.
- 8 So, that case was about -- you know, the
- 9 legal issue in that case was about whether or not it
- 10 was fair to treat those ballots differently, and there
- 11 was evidence that some voters did not understand what
- 12 the results of pressing the green button were or may
- 13 have been misinformed about it. So, that's what the --
- 14 so, that case is more in the nature of a -- if you all
- 15 recall -- you may not. There was a case involving now
- 16 Congressman Biggs and Christine Jones when they ran
- 17 against each other for that seat.
- What the Jones campaign did, although they
- 19 ultimately lost the election, before the canvass came
- 20 in, they wanted to make sure that all of the votes that
- 21 could be counted were. So, that was their piece of
- 22 litigation. So, that's really what Trump versus Hobbs
- 23 was about. When the case turned out it was
- 24 mathematically impossible for the number to make any
- 25 difference at all, the case went away.

- 1 matters.
- 2 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Well, but the
- 3 complaint said this affects thousands of votes, I
- 4 believe, is what the complaint said.
- 5 MR. COLLINS: Well, I mean, yeah. I mean,
- 6 information that was held by the county, not by the
- 7 campaign.
- 8 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Got you.
- 9 MR. COLLINS: So, you know, it just seems
- 10 to me that there's -- I mean, there's -- let me put it
- 11 this way. As an attorney, I find that there's a
- 12 distinction between some of these cases in terms of
- 13 their potential merit and the potential strategy. The14 Trump versus Hobbs campaign was not about overturning
- 15 the results of an election in any way. It was about
- 16 ensuring that all of the votes that could be counted
- were in before the canvass. That's a different
- 18 philosophical basis for bringing a lawsuit and a
- 19 different legal basis.
- 20 Republican Party v. Fontes is a case that,
- 21 again, I think, as we understand -- as I understand,
- 22 it's still pending. It has to do -- so, in statute,
- when you do the audit hand count that Gina mentioned,
- 24 in statute you do that by increasing it. However, you
- 25 know, counties can, also, do a vote center model.

10:34:25-10:36:07 Page 50 10:37:54-10:39:26 Page 52

- 1 Because the vote center model is not really well
- 2 articulated in statute, the election procedures manual
- 3 says, well, if you're doing vote centers, do that
- 4 sample based on vote centers, not by precinct.
- 5 So -- now, again, this is a case that, you
- 6 know, I'm not -- I'm not -- I don't -- I mean, the
- 7 county position, essentially, is this is not possible
- 8 to do. The time -- there's just no time to do this,
- 9 but what this would amount to do is that you'd have to
- 10 find a way to back-end a vote into a precinct that
- 11 would have existed but for the -- but for the vote
- 12 center and then you would get a bigger percentage
- 13 selection for the -- for the hand count confirmation.
- 14 So, you know -- you know, again, I'm not
- 15 sure that -- I'm not sure that this litigation would
- 16 have any results, although it doesn't mean anything,
- 17 although it certainly would delay -- delay the
- 18 certification. So, I don't know that we have a final
- 19 ruling on that case.
- 20 Finally, the Aguilera 2, it really,
- 21 basically, seems to raise a question of how do I ever
- 22 know if my ballot has been counted. Well, that's sort
- 23 of proving a negative. I mean, it's a very -- that
- 24 case is a little hard for me to track with. In other
- 25 words, we have a right to anonymous ballots. So, once

- 1 If you will notice, there was a political conversation
- 2 about results that -- where there are requests for some
- 3 further action. The cases don't really -- at this
- 4 point, are divorced from what that -- the sort of
- 5 political interests in a broader kind of audit or
- 6 review.
- 7 And, finally, just to -- as with all these
- 8 things, you know, we have received numerous
- 9 communications from voters around the state asking the
- 10 Clean Elections Commission to not sign off on any
- 11 election until the results are further audited and, of
- 12 course, that's not something the Clean Elections
- 13 Commission is statutorily involved in. So, you know,
- 14 there is -- there is -- there is that.
- So, that's kind of the overview of the
- 16 legal picture at this point. It's largely -- I think
- 17 it's largely resolved, unless anyone has any questions
- 18 for me.
- 19 Mr. Chairman, if you could take yourself
- 20 off mute for a second.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: I have a comment. This is
- 22 Commissioner Paton. I just -- I think there's a lot of
- 23 confusion just because we have 50 states and 50 ways of
- 24 doing things. And then the local people see all this
- 25 other stuff going on that was willy-nilly out in

10:36:13-10:37:46 Page 51 10:39:31-10:41:20 Page 53

- 1 your ballot is separated from your mail-in envelope or
- 2 once you cast it, it's just a ballot.
- 3 So, I'm not sure that I quite understand
- 4 what the -- what the relief being sought
- 5 there is, but nevertheless, you know, as the governor
- 6 noted yesterday, these are cases that exist. And how
- 7 they affect anything going forward, I think, is unclear 8 that they will, at all, but nevertheless, you know, all
- 9 of -- all of -- all election officers in Arizona are
- 10 all going to say -- and correctly -- until the
- 11 counties -- the canvasses are complete, the election is
- 12 not -- the election results are not final.
- So, that's -- so, that's really the
- 14 highlights of those cases. I don't anticipate at this
- 15 point any of them making a significant -- having a
- 16 significant effect. And I think that the judges -- I
- 17 sat in on at least the Trump -- or sat in on some of
- 18 the Trump v. Hobbs case. And, then, reading about the
- 19 Republican Party v. Fontes case, the judiciary is very
- 20 aware of the statutory deadlines that are here. So,
- 21 it's not like this is -- you know, it's not as if these
- 22 are -- these cases are lingering.
- 23 I just don't -- I'm just not sure how the
- 24 relief in some of them could affect anything and how it
- 25 could -- you know, and how it could make a difference.

- 1 Pennsylvania where they changed stuff at the last
- 2 minute, and I think that kind of poisons the well a
- 3 little bit. I've voted by mail for many, many years
- 4 and my wife's tracked and got accepted and all that.
- 5 And so, I think our elections here, as I was worried
- 6 about people dropping off early ballots the day of the
- 7 election, 600,000 of them -- actually, I'm sure our
- 8 education dwindled that down. It could have been over
- **9** a million, who knows.
- 10 I mean -- and, Gina, I just have to say
- 11 well job, an immense amount -- [inaudible] -- and I
- 12 couldn't imagine anybody doing it better. And so, I
- 13 have a lot of gratitude for your work, and on -- I feel
- 14 Arizona stuff is -- when you hear on the news that
- 15 there's 600,000 being counted, there's always something
- 16 in the back of your mind saying, you know, well, why is
- 17 that possible? Why are you so slow? Why are -- all of
- 18 that. And I think all these other news about other
- 19 things has clouded it, and really the people -- a lot
- 20 of the people that are complaining are the ones that
- 21 voted with their early ballot the day of.
- So, anyway, that's my -- my thought on the
- 23 whole deal.
- 24 Any other comments or questions for Tom?
- 25 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Commissioner Paton, if

10:41:21-10:42:40 Page 54 | 10:44:06-10:45:08 Page 56

- 1 I can make a comment.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Commissioner Meyer.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MEYER: I want to agree with
- 4 you, Commissioner Paton, on what a great job Tom, Gina,
- 5 staff have done in voter education, very -- you know, I
- 6 just can't commend you enough on that. Thank you.
- 7 And as far as the confusion and 50 states
- 8 doing things differently, yes, I agree with that; that
- 9 that does create some confusion, but I, also, want to
- 10 know if it creates confusion when our public officials
- 11 and our -- and our elected official actively
- 12 participate in creating that confusion. And that's
- 13 something, I think, that we should look at.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Any other
- 15 discussion?
- 16 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman? This
- 17 is Commissioner Kimble.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble, go
- 19 ahead.
- 20 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I just want to echo
- 21 some of the comments made. It seems like before the
- 22 election and then since then, this has just been a game
- 23 of Whac-A-Mole with all kinds of allegations plumping
- 24 up; some of them from inadvertent misunderstandings and
- 25 some of them not inadvertent. And I am very impressed

- 1 MS. ROBERTS: One thing I would like --
- 2 CHAIRMAN PATON: Gina.
- 3 MS. ROBERTS: Yes. Thank you.
- 4 One thing I would like to note that I'd
- 5 like to show very quickly -- and, hopefully, you all
- 6 can still see my screen -- are some statistics on our
- 7 website. As I mentioned, in January, we'll have a more
- 8 thorough overview of our metrics and our performance,
- 9 but I think looking at this, it will address some of
- 10 the comments that were just made by some of the
- 11 commissioners.
- 12 These are stats on our website, and I'm
- 13 looking at a range from September 21st through
- 14 November 13th. And, again, the election was on
- 15 November 3rd. And one of the things that I wanted to
- 16 highlight to the Commission, in this graph right here,
- 17 when we look at the traffic that we're receiving on our
- 18 website and the source of where it's coming from, one
- 19 of the things that we've seen this year that we have
- 20 not seen in years past is that it's stemming from
- 21 organic search, that people are organically, naturally
- 22 going to Google and typing in their information that's
- 23 driving them to our website.
- 24 And that means several things. One, it
- 25 means that the content in our website is trusted by

10:42:46-10:44:06 Page 55 10:45:11-10:46:26 Page 57

- 1 by how -- as soon as something popped up, there was
- 2 something on the Clean Elections website explaining it,
- 3 debunking it, showing how you can check this thing for
- 4 yourself.
- 5 And I'm just really impressed by the job
- 6 that Tom and Gina did on getting the accurate
- 7 information out there quickly because it seems like it
- 8 was just a never-ending example of information that
- **9** popped out of nowhere. And some of it intentionally,
- 10 as Commissioner Meyer pointed out, but this is a really
- 11 excellent example of educating voters and striking down
- 12 a lot of this completely spurious allegations and
- 13 suspicions.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other questions?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, then we're going
- 17 to go to Item V: Discussion and possible action on
- **18** 2021 chairperson.
- MS. ROBERTS: Actually -- I'm sorry.
- 20 Mr. Chairman, I do have a little bit more. May I have
- 21 permission to proceed before we move to the next agenda
- **22** item?
- 23 CHAIRMAN PATON: Sure.
- MS. ROBERTS: Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PATON: Sure. Go ahead.

- 1 Google. It is established as an official source of
- 2 information and a good source of content. So, we're
- 3 ranking higher in our search optimization. And, two,
- 4 people -- in light of this election and in light of
- 5 maybe the politicization around it and the concerns,
- 6 people have been looking to the Clean Elections
- 7 Commission as the neutral party here, as the neutral
- 8 organization to get their official factual information.
- 9 And I think that's a really great thing
- 10 that stands out in this election year. It shows that
- 11 our office has been able to respond to those voters and
- 12 giving them just the factual information, and I think,
- 13 when we look at the information of what voters are
- 14 looking at, some of the pages on our website, how votes
- 15 are counted, how to vote in person, how to vote by
- 16 mail, our voter dashboard, their registering to vote,
- 17 all of this information lends to establishing that
- 18 trust and promoting that participation in the political
- 19 process, which is really meeting the heart of the Clean
- 20 Elections Act, if you will.
- 21 And then, also, when I go down here a
- 22 little bit more in the Google search queries, you know,
- 23 how votes are counted, as I mentioned, in this
- 24 particular time range that I'm looking at, we're
- 25 looking at after the election day, as well. And we've,

10:46:28-10:47:39 Page 58 | 10:49:13-10:50:31 Page 60

- 1 also, never seen the same amount of traffic on our
- 2 website post election day as we have now. People are
- 3 still quite engaged and wanting to have that confidence
- 4 in the system and learning more about it.
- 5 And so, I think it's great that the
- 6 Commission -- you know, a few years ago, if you will
- 7 recall, the Commission invested in a website redesign,
- 8 and our website is really the heart of our -- of our
- 9 voter education and communicating with voters. The
- 10 traffic on our website, the search that we're
- 11 receiving, it's all broken records this year and,
- 12 again, it's meeting the needs of voters.
- And one thing I'd really like to point out,
- 14 too, is over here, this pie chart of who's using this
- 15 site. This is a very well-reflective pie chart, and it
- 16 shows that we're meeting all of the demographics in the
- 17 state. We are not just educating Maricopa County.
- **18** We're reaching the four corners of the state. We're
- 19 reaching all 15 counties and, you know, things --
- 20 voting in Maricopa County, in the city of Phoenix is
- 21 very different from voting in Apache County or Navajo
- 22 County.
- And so, we have to be able to communicate
- 24 to all voters in all their different circumstances and
- 25 our website is accomplishing that. So, I just wanted

- 1 several years. So, I would leave it to you to have
- 2 your -- to have your discussion.
- 3 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Mr. Chairman, this is
- 4 Commissioner Kimble.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes, Mr. Kimble. Go
- 6 ahead.
- 7 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: I would nominate
- 8 Commissioner Chan to be chair for Calendar 2021.
- **9** CHAIRMAN PATON: And so, we have a motion.
- 10 Do we -- Tom, is this in the form of a
- 11 motion?
- MR. COLLINS: I think -- so, I mean, I
- 13 think that the nomination -- I mean, the nomination to
- 14 me is practically a motion, but if Mr. Chairman and
- 15 Commissioner Kimble, if you wouldn't mind moving the --
- 16 moving that the Commission appoint Commissioner Chan
- 17 for 2021, just for the record, that might be helpful.
- L8 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Okay. This is
- 19 Commissioner Kimble again. I move that the Commission
- 20 choose Commissioner Chan to be chair for Calendar 2021.
  - 21 CHAIRMAN PATON: So, we have a motion.
  - 22 Do we have a second?
  - 23 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman, this is
- **24** Commissioner Meyer. I will second that motion.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. We have a motion

10:47:41-10:49:10 Page 59 10:50:32-10:51:23 Page 61

- 1 to share these -- this brief overview. And with that,
- 2 I'm happy to answer any questions, if there are any.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PATON: No other questions?
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 And so, on to Item V: Discussion and
- 7 possible action on 2021 new chairman.
- 8 Any discussion?
- 9 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman --
- 10 CHAIRMAN PATON: Tom, what do we do?
- 11 MR. COLLINS: Oh, just to -- just to
- 12 clarify, so in November, December of the last several
- 13 years, depending upon our schedule and, you know,
- 14 preview of coming events, December we're going to have
- 15 a budget stuff for you and then, in January, voter ed.
- **16** So, we will have a pretty packed agenda, but it's not a
- 17 staff. The point here is to -- this is a discussion
- 18 and a decision amongst -- amongst the commissioners.
- 19 So, just to frame it to say, you know, when
- 20 we have November, December meetings, we try to --
- 21 because there's so many different things that have to
- 22 be done before the end of the year, we try to balance
- 23 the agendas to get done with what we can, and that's
- 24 about it. Other than that, it's -- I think all of you
- 25 have been participants in this discussion now for

- 1 and a second, and we will go through the roll call.
- **2** Commissioner Meyer?
- 3 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Don't you guys want
- 4 to -- you guys don't need me to convince you or
- 5 anything? I want to say thank you, first of all.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PATON: Wait until --
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Oh, wait. We've got to
- 8 hear the vote. Okay. Thanks for the nomination,
- 9 though.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner, how do you
- **11** vote?
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I vote aye.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. Commissioner Meyer?
- 14 COMMISSIONER MEYER: I vote ave.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble?
- 16 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Titla?
- 18 (No response.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Titla?
- 20 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Maybe he's not on
- 21 there.
- 22 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Did he fall off? I
- 23 don't see him on there.
- MS. HERRING: Yes. He's no longer on the
- 25 meeting.

10:51:23-10:52:35 Page 62 10:53:59-10:55:03 Page 64

- 1 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. And this is
- 2 Commissioner Paton, and I vote eye, as well. The ayes
- 3 have carried, and so we will have a new chairman for
- 4 2021 of the Arizona Clean Elections Commission,
- **5** Commissioner Amy Chan.
- 6 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PATON: And so now you have to
- 8 make a speech.
- 9 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Yeah. Well, I did want
- 10 to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for your
- 11 chairmanship and leadership this year. And I know this
- 12 is kind of ceremonial because we all pass the torch to
- 13 each other every year, but it does mean something to
- 14 me. I've learned so much from each of you, and I
- 15 think, you know, I went from being -- I don't know --
- 16 for lack of a better word, I'll call it a freshman
- 17 commissioner, you know, when I came on board, and I've
- 18 learned a lot from all of you.
- 19 And I think when I came on board, I was
- 20 most excited about the voter ed piece of Clean
- 21 Elections, and I kind of accepted the fact that, you
- 22 know, I had gone through the Bennett case where it had
- 23 kind of -- I don't want to say decimated the
- 24 participation of candidates because, obviously, we
- 25 still have a lot of participation. I mean, Mike just

- 1 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Mr. Chairman?
- 2 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other -- yes,
- 3 Commissioner Meyer.
- 4 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Commissioner Chan,
- 5 thank you. I'm sure we're going to be in great hands.
- 6 I look forward to working with you for another year
- 7 and, I guess, I will just -- you know, on the voter
- 8 education, it's wonderful, but personally I find the
- 9 rule-making and that's just been taxing -- I'm kidding.
- 10 I, a hundred percent, agree with you on the voter ed.
- 11 It's wonderful, and I'm willing to support it every
- **12** year.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any other comments?
- **14** (No response.)
- 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: So, Tom, do we -- do we
- 16 just have left our adjournment?
- 17 MR. COLLINS: We have public comment, if
- 18 there's any member of the public -- Cathy, I don't know
- 19 if we have any members of the public who have joined
- 20 us.
- MS. HERRING: I do not believe so.
- 22 MR. COLLINS: Okay.
- 23 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Ms. Knox is on the
- **24** line.
- 25 MR. COLLINS: I'm sorry?

10:52:38-10:53:58 Page 63 | 10:55:04-10:56:15 Page 65

- 1 went over that with us. We still see some
- 2 participation, but you know, without matching funds,
- 3 we're not as competitive anymore as far as against
- 4 traditional-funded candidates.
- 5 And so, I kind of accepted that when I came
- 6 on board, and we've seen the rise of dark money. And I
- 7 think -- just in hearing what other commissioners have
- 8 to say, I think my vision for the next year while I'm
- **9** chairman, I'd really like to take a look at and maybe
- 10 work on some things with looking at dark money and if
- 11 there is something we could do as a Commission to
- 12 address that and somehow bring some more integrity to
- 13 our elections in Arizona and kind of get -- get some
- **14** more -- kind of reinvigorate that part of our mission.
- 15 I don't know how we'll do that. I know
- 16 it's a tough road to hoe because of, you know, how that
- 17 lies right now, but maybe we can get creative and kind
- 18 of take a fresh look and that sort of thing. So, I'm
- 19 happy to have you all with me, and I'm looking forward
- 20 to continuing to work together. I know you guys have
- 21 been on here well past your time, but I think we're a
- 22 good team.
- 23 So, thank you so much for continuing to
- 24 come to meetings and making this continue to work.
- 25 Thanks a lot.

- 1 COMMISSIONER MEYER: I think I see
- 2 Ms. Rivko Knox is on.
- 3 MR. COLLINS: Oh, okay.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PATON: Any -- so, do we have any
- 5 public comment?
- 6 MR. COLLINS: Cathy, if you could check if
- 7 Rivko Knox is on the line.
- 8 MS. KNOX: I am on the line. I don't know
- 9 if you can hear.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PATON: Yes.
- 11 MS. KNOX: This is Rivko Knox. It is a
- **12** pleasure to follow everything that Clean Elections
- 13 Commission did during this election in light of a lot
- 14 of challenges of all kinds. I think the website is
- 15 absolutely amazing. I did mention to staff -- and I'm
- 16 not sure this information filtered all the way to the
- 17 Commission, and I know there were several meetings
- 18 cancelled. So, I did not have a chance to say this,
- 19 but the League of Women Voters created -- did some
- 20 voter education of its own, sent out a very large
- 21 number of postcards.
- And on the postcards, it just talked about
- 23 the security of vote by mail and a lot of other
- 24 facts about deadlines and everything else, but it,
- 25 also, included a reference to the Clean Elections

Page 68

10:56:22-10:57:57 Page 66 1 Commission to obtain information about the candidates 2 and the voting process. And I did not design these 3 3 cards. I have no visual skills, or that kind of thing, 4 but I was really excited to see that on the cards 5 5 because I do think that the Commission's website and 6 6 all of the stuff that staff and the commissioners do is 7 invaluable. 8 And I'm not quite sure what the next 9 steps -- I, also, want to say, again, on behalf of the 10 10 League, how much we appreciate the endless commitment 11 11 of the commissioners, some of whose terms expired quite 12 12 a long time ago, to continue to attend meetings and 13 13 participate. As I think you all know, letters were 14 14 sent encouraging the governor and the Secretary of 15 State to appoint commissioners. Clearly, with the 15 16 election and everything else that's gone on, nothing 16 17 happened there. 17 I'm not sure if we'll try again, but 18 19 hopefully -- hopefully, something will happen soon 19 20 because there is a -- A, there's a limit to everyone's 20 21 commitment in the public service and, B, it really is 21 22 time for new commissioners to be appointed; but we 22 23 continue to monitor and congratulate the staff and the 23 24 commissioners for all the outstanding work that you do. 24 So, thank you very much for the opportunity 25 25 10:57:58-10:58:46 Page 67 1 to speak. CHAIRMAN PATON: Thank you, ma'am. 3 Any other public comment? 4 (No response.)

- 5 CHAIRMAN PATON: If not, I would enter a
- 6 motion to adjourn.
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I move
- 8 that we adjourn the meeting.
- 9 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: This is Commissioner
- 10 Kimble. I second.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PATON: Okay. So, we have a
- 12 motion and a second. We'll do a roll call.
- 13 Commissioner Chan?
- 14 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Meyer?
- 16 COMMISSIONER MEYER: Aye.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PATON: Commissioner Kimble?
- 18 COMMISSIONER KIMBLE: Aye.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PATON: And, I guess, Commissioner
- 20 Titla may not be here. And this is Commissioner Paton.
- 21 I vote aye, as well.
- We are now adjourned. Have a good
- 23 Thanksgiving everybody.
- 24 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at
- 25 10:58 a.m.)

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STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF MARICOPA
           BE IT KNOWN the foregoing proceedings were
taken by me; that I was then and there a Certified
Reporter of the State of Arizona, and by virtue thereof
authorized to administer an oath; that the proceedings
were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter
transcribed into typewriting under my direction; that
the foregoing pages are a full, true, and accurate
transcript of all proceedings and testimony had and
adduced upon the taking of said proceedings, all done to
the best of my skill and ability.
             I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way
related to nor employed by any of the parties thereto
nor am I in any way interested in the outcome hereof.
           DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 20th day of
November, 2020.
                      LILIA MONARREZ, RPR, CR #50699
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Citizens Clean Elections		Г	T	November 19, 202
	56:14;58:12;60:19;	<b>ASL (1)</b> 6:16	ballots (28) 20:23;22:1,	
r	66:9,18	aspect (1) 39:21	9,15,17;23:7;25:3,9,11;	C
L	against (2) 47:17;63:3	aspersions (1) 36:18	27:15,22;29:17,19,25;	C
		assessment (1) 44:17		
inaudible] (1) 53:11	agenda (2) 55:21;	` ,	30:2,2;36:5,5;41:23,	Calendar (2) 60:8,20
	59:16	assist (1) 45:7	24;44:5;45:15;46:6;	<b>California (2)</b> 45:14,19
${f A}$	agendas (1) 59:23	assistance (1) 6:5	47:7,10;48:15;50:25;	<b>call (8)</b> 3:4;5:1;7:1,7,
	aggregates (1) 31:3	attempt (1) 30:7	53:6	23;61:1;62:16;67:12
bility (2) 39:8;40:3	<b>ago (2)</b> 58:6;66:12	attempting (1) 8:8	<b>ballpoint (2)</b> 39:2,4	called (2) 9:22;17:18
ble (13) 5:17;6:4;	<b>agree (3)</b> 54:3,8;64:10	attend (1) 66:12	based (2) 44:17;50:4	calling (1) 3:5
7:19;13:7,10;14:4;	<b>Aguilera (3)</b> 46:14,19;	attendance (1) 3:6	bases (1) 7:17	calls (2) 9:9;33:3
23:1;26:5;31:12,25;	50:20	attitude (1) 45:7	basically (9) 20:24;	calm (1) 33:12
39:8;57:11;58:23	ahead (11) 8:18;14:23;	attorney (2) 10:21;	28:1;29:15;31:9;33:9,	came (6) 13:11;27:8;
ibsolutely (4) 32:1;	15:24;26:12;27:10;	49:11	16;43:7;46:16;50:21	47:19;62:17,19;63:5
34:8,23;65:15	33:24;35:13;38:9;	attorneys (1) 10:22	basis (2) 49:18,19	
	54:19;55:25;60:6	audience (1) 14:11	<b>BECKER (1)</b> 11:12	camera (1) 42:13
ccept (1) 4:23	Alec (1) 9:12	audit (2) 49:23;52:5	begin (5) 14:21;23:1,4;	campaign (4) 18:25;
ccepted (4) 28:18;	alert (1) 21:9	audited (1) 52:11	24:15,17	47:18;49:7,14
53:4;62:21;63:5	alive (1) 46:13		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	can (55) 3:24;4:2;6:19;
ccomplishing (1)		auditing (1) 38:2	beginning (2) 28:8;	7:16,23;8:9,14,16,19;
58:25	allegations (2) 54:23;	August (3) 3:19,24;4:4	48:24	16:11,14;18:13,15,21
ccording (1) 29:13	55:12	authorize (1) 42:24	behalf (1) 66:9	20:7,8,13,16;21:5,7,10
ccuracy (8) 25:23;	allow (2) 19:17;42:19	automatic (3) 41:12;	Bennett (1) 62:22	11;22:5,7,24;23:4,14,
30:12,14,21;35:8,8;	along (4) 16:11;23:8;	42:20,22	<b>best (2)</b> 17:19;46:12	25;24:5,15,17;27:12,
42:7;43:11	45:25;46:2	availability (1) 18:8	<b>better (3)</b> 32:17;53:12;	23,24;28:2;29:16;
accurate (3) 6:6;42:18;	although (5) 15:10;	available (4) 18:12;	62:16	32:19;35:11;36:14;
55:6	44:20;47:18;50:16,17	20:6;34:14;35:1	bigger (1) 50:12	38:2;39:4;41:15;42:13
act (2) 36:2;57:20	always (2) 37:12;53:15	average (3) 11:13;36:8,	<b>Biggs (1)</b> 47:16	14,14,15;45:3,8;49:25
	amazing (1) 65:15	11	billboards (1) 12:3	54:1;55:3;56:6;59:23;
action (10) 3:19;5:13;	American (1) 6:10	<b>Avery (4)</b> 6:12,13;8:24;	bipartisan (2) 33:18;	
7:1,10;9:23;14:20;	among (1) 44:19	9:10	34:3	63:17;65:9
42:24;52:3;55:17;59:7	amongst (2) 59:18,18	aware (1) 51:20	bit (13) 11:15;15:18;	cancelled (6) 40:21,22,
ctive (2) 5:21,22	amount (7) 9:9;22:9;	away (2) 47:25;48:22	22:8,19;29:12;38:20;	23;41:1;45:5;65:18
ctively (1) 54:11				<b>cancelling (1)</b> 44:25
activities (3) 8:21;	44:13;46:5;50:9;53:11;	<b>Aye (12)</b> 5:3,5,7,9,11;	40:12,13;43:21;48:1;	candidates (4) 11:6;
25:22;30:11	58:1	61:12,14,16;67:14,16,	53:3;55:20;57:22	62:24;63:4;66:1
ictual (2) 18:22;26:21	amplify (1) 43:21	18,21	bled (1) 31:22	canvass (10) 15:11,16;
actually (11) 5:17;6:23;	<b>Amy (2)</b> 35:11;62:5	ayes (1) 62:2	bleed (1) 38:22	29:14;31:2,5,7;42:21;
11:4;13:11;20:15;	anonymous (1) 50:25	<b>AZAN (1)</b> 10:4	bleed-through (1) 32:22	47:19;48:5;49:17
24:25;25:1,5;40:17;	anticipate (4) 9:14;		<b>board (12)</b> 13:9;30:25;	canvassed (1) 25:21
53:7;55:19	10:10;45:20;51:14	В	31:1;33:15,18;34:4,4;	canvasses (2) 15:13;
add (7) 4:13;9:14;	anymore (3) 35:23;		42:14;43:10;62:17,19;	51:11
20:12,16;26:1,4;38:7	37:15;63:3	back (18) 7:16,21;8:4,	63:6	cards (2) 66:3,4
	<b>Apache (1)</b> 58:21	6,12;15:18;20:13;	boards (1) 36:7	
addition (1) 42:9	appeal (1) 9:22	21:13;34:1,6,11,22;	books (1) 37:3	care (2) 13:6;14:2
additional (2) 24:12;	appealed (1) 26:21	37:6;41:19;44:5,8;	booths (2) 18:3,4	cares (1) 45:15
26:2				carried (1) 62:3
address (5) 23:21;	Appeals (2) 9:20,24	46:9;53:16	both (13) 6:13,13;18:1;	case (24) 10:4,5;46:15,
28:12,20;56:9;63:12	application (1) 41:4	back-end (1) 50:10	19:14,20;27:5,6;30:4,	18,19,20,21,23,25;
idjourn (2) 67:6,8	appoint (2) 60:16;66:15	background (1) 12:22	15;35:9;36:13;42:5,6	47:8,9,14,15,23,25;
adjourned (1) 67:22	appointed (2) 10:17;	balance (1) 59:22	box (1) 33:24	48:3,14;49:20;50:5,19
adjournment (1) 64:16	66:22	balances (1) 28:8	boxes (3) 18:9,9;20:6	24;51:18,19;62:22
idjudicated (2) 33:16;	appreciate (1) 66:10	<b>ballot (81)</b> 13:4,10,25;	brand-new (1) 37:22	cases (9) 9:19;46:11,
34:11	<b>approval (1)</b> 7:16	14:4;17:6,8,18;18:8,11,	breakdown (1) 21:22	12,25;49:12;51:6,14,
administrated (1) 38:16	approve (4) 3:24,24;	13,20;19:15,17,21;	brief (1) 59:1	22;52:3
adopt (2) 30:25;31:4	4:3;7:24	20:2,3,8,10;21:7,8,10,	briefing (1) 9:25	cast (7) 14:4;36:18;
	Arizona (13) 6:14;	12;23:5,9;27:10,12,18,	bring (1) 63:12	
adopts (1) 31:1	11:25;19:16,16;20:20;	20,23,25;28:13,17,22;	bring (1) 49:18	46:6,7;47:2,4;51:2
Adrian (1) 36:25	21:20;28:24;29:8;	29:11;30:5,10;31:20,	broader (1) 52:5	Cathy (3) 14:14;64:18;
advanced (1) 29:9	41:23;51:9;53:14;62:4;	21,23,25;32:5,14,18,	broken (2) 38:4;58:11	65:6
ndvised (1) 19:13				cause (1) 32:19
advisor (1) 10:16	63:13	22,23;33:4,9,12,14,17,	budget (1) 59:15	causes (1) 38:19
Advisory (1) 10:17	Arizona's (1) 42:19	20,24;34:5,5,8,13,16,	build (1) 45:2	<b>CDC (1)</b> 18:24
affect (3) 48:21;51:7,24	around (7) 15:21;16:9;	17;36:7;37:7,11,13;	<b>bullet (2)</b> 46:15,20	center (4) 37:9;49:25;
affects (1) 49:3	22:15,17;37:21;52:9;	39:10,16;40:9,11,17,	business (1) 8:14	50:1,12
again (13) 19:22;	57:5	18,20,23;41:1,4;44:25;	<b>button (2)</b> 47:4,12	centers (2) 50:3,4
	41 1 4 1 4 1 5 0 0		1	
	articulated (1) 50:2	46:1,7;47:3,5;50:22;		Central (3) 3/1.6 77.
22:19;31:11;40:8; 42:11;49:21;50:5,14;	<b>articulated (1)</b> 50:2 <b>aside (2)</b> 37:20;48:2	46:1,7;47:3,5;50:22; 51:1,2;53:21		<b>central (3)</b> 34:6,22; 37:11

**ceremonial (1)** 62:12 certain (1) 42:20 certainly (1) 50:17 certification (1) 50:18 certifications (1) 15:13 **certified (2)** 15:11; 37:22 cetera (2) 36:6,6 chair (2) 60:8,20 **CHAIRMAN (108)** 3:3, 3,10,12,15,23,25;4:5,8, 10,14,17,19,22,25;5:4, 6,8,10,15;8:15,18;11:1, 2,4,12,17,20,21;12:7,9, 12,13,15;14:8,10,14, 16,19,25;15:22,24,25; 16:16;22:4;23:22;26:7, 8,9,12,14;35:10,13; 38:6,9;40:7;44:2,15; 48:7,9;52:19,21;54:2, 14,16,18;55:14,16,20, 23,25;56:2;59:3,5,7,9, 10;60:3,5,9,14,21,23, 25;61:6,10,13,15,17, 19;62:1,3,7,10;63:9; 64:1,2,13,15;65:4,10; 67:2,5,7,11,15,17,19 chairmanship (1) 62:11 **chairperson (1)** 55:18 **challenge (2)** 37:1; 41:16 **challenges (2)** 40:5; 65:14 challenging (1) 47:2 Chan (26) 3:7,8,25;5:2, 3;12:13,16;35:10,12, 14;38:7;44:21;60:8,16, 20;61:3,7,12,20;62:5,6, 9;64:4;67:7,13,14 chance (2) 10:23;65:18 **change (7)** 24:14,16; 38:19,19,20,23;45:12 **changed (1)** 53:1 changes (1) 20:18 **changing (4)** 27:25; 32:5;47:1,1 **chart (2)** 58:14,15 **check (2)** 55:3;65:6 checks (1) 28:8 choice (1) 47:4 choose (1) 60:20 **chose (1)** 32:20 **Christine (1)** 47:16 circumstances (4) 12:21,23,24;58:24 **Citizens (1)** 3:5 city (1) 58:20 clarification (1) 21:18 clarify (3) 33:19;38:24; 59:12 Clean (12) 3:5;11:23; 12:1;52:10,12;55:2; 57:6,19;62:4,20;65:12,

clearly (2) 43:24;66:15 **clouded (1)** 53:19 code (1) 43:7 coffee (1) 36:5 **Collins (34)** 5:14,15; 6:18,21;7:4,20;8:15, 19;11:9;12:8;14:14,18, 23,24;23:22;24:1,4; 26:4;43:20;45:20;48:8, 11,16,19,23;49:5,9; 59:11;60:12;64:17,22, 25;65:3,6 combined (1) 6:13 coming (4) 10:23; 18:20;56:18;59:14 commend (3) 11:23; 12:4;54:6 comment (7) 14:10; 35:11;52:21;54:1; 64:17;65:5;67:3 Comments (6) 12:10; 24:13;53:24;54:21; 56:10;64:13 **Commission (16)** 3:6; 6:14;16:5;52:10,13; 56:16;57:7;58:6,7; 60:16,19;62:4;63:11; 65:13,17;66:1 Commissioner (111) 3:7,8,10,11,12,13,16, 25;4:12,14,16,18,20, 24,25;5:2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10;8:1;11:19,21,22; 12:13,16,18;21:15,19; 22:4;23:17,22,24;24:3, 6;35:10,14;38:6;44:2, 21;45:11,17;48:7,9,12, 17,20;49:2,8;52:22; 53:25,25:54:2,3,4,16, 17,18,20;55:10;59:9; 60:3,4,7,8,15,16,18,19, 20,23,24;61:2,3,7,10, 12,13,14,15,16,17,19, 20,22;62:2,5,6,9,17; 64:1,3,4,4,23;65:1; 67:7,9,9,13,14,15,16, 17,18,19,20 Commissioners (17) 5:16;6:22;8:5;10:15; 11:12,23;14:25;15:25; 26:14;56:11;59:18; 63:7;66:6,11,15,22,24 Commission's (1) 66:5 commitment (2) 66:10, 21 communicate (1) 58:23 communicating (1) 58:9 communication (3) 38:18;41:9,17 Communications (3) 6:10;27:6;52:9

competitive (1) 63:3

complaining (1) 53:20 complaint (2) 49:3,4 complaints (2) 10:9,11 complete (3) 25:15,20; 51:11 completed (3) 30:23, 24;35:7 **completely (1)** 55:12 completes (2) 10:25; 32:14 completing (1) 31:21 **compliment (1)** 12:19 **concerning (1)** 9:21 concerns (17) 9:21; 19:4,12;23:11;25:8; 27:13,21;28:20;29:2,5; 31:23;32:24,25;33:1, 12;34:12;57:5 concluded (1) 67:24 conditional (2) 25:10; 30:10 **confidence (5)** 21:5,11; 37:14;38:13;58:3 **confirm (6)** 17:8;28:11, 17,18;40:11;41:3 confirmation (1) 50:13 **confirming (1)** 34:17 confirms (1) 28:15 confusion (7) 31:18; 40:21;52:23;54:7,9,10, congratulate (1) 66:23 congratulations (1) 10:19 **Congressman (1)** 47:16 **conjunction (2)** 19:23; 30:17 considerable (1) 9:8 considering (2) 18:17, constituent (1) 13:18 contact (1) 30:7 content (3) 31:12; 56:25;57:2 **continually (1)** 9:13 continue (6) 8:16;45:2, 8;63:24;66:12,23 continued (1) 6:12 continuing (2) 63:20,23 contribute (1) 24:21 control (1) 24:2 conversation (1) 52:1 conversations (1) 35:2 **convince (1)** 61:4 corners (1) 58:18 correctly (2) 31:25; 51:10 **correlated (1)** 43:24 cost (1) 46:9 Council (1) 10:18 count (15) 21:25;24:22; 27:22;30:11,16;33:12; 34:6,22;35:7;37:12;

44:9,13;45:13;49:23; 50:13 counted (24) 17:8; 22:10;23:7;25:3;27:23; 28:19;33:4,21;34:9,10, 13,19,21,23;39:16; 40:9,12;41:3;47:21; 49:16;50:22;53:15; 57:15,23 counties (34) 15:12; 17:12;18:7;19:3,7,23; 22:7,13,25;23:4;24:15, 17,18;25:2,8,16,18; 27:15;28:9;29:13,16, 25;30:3,6,20;32:10,20; 41:22;42:6,25;44:19; 49:25;51:11;58:19 counting (2) 33:22; 45:15 counts (3) 25:23;37:13; 42:10 County (31) 10:7;13:6, 7,11;17:21;18:10,16; 20:7;21:8;27:22;30:23, 25;31:1,16;32:2;34:1, 11;35:6,20;36:21; 37:23;39:1,14,23; 43:10;49:6;50:7;58:17, 20,21,22 **couple (4)** 10:10;11:14; 22:2;45:24 course (10) 6:15;10:11; 13:22;15:14;17:9,25; 20:7;27:7;37:20;52:12 **court (10)** 7:13,15,19; 8:6,10;9:20,24;10:7; 26:19;42:24 covered (2) 7:18;37:18 covering (1) 17:4 COVID-19 (1) 19:6 create (2) 31:12;54:9 created (1) 65:19 creates (2) 21:25;54:10 **creating (1)** 54:12 **creative (1)** 63:17 credibility (1) 45:6 **critical (1)** 38:13 culminated (1) 40:8 Cummings (1) 10:21 cure (1) 25:6 curious (1) 21:24 **current (2)** 16:3,8 currently (2) 9:24;46:4 **cyber (1)** 43:5 cycle (2) 12:20;24:24 cycles (1) 11:15 D

Damien (1) 21:19 dark (2) 63:6,10 dashboard (1) 57:16 data (3) 22:6,9;23:13 day (35) 8:23:13:25; 21:23;22:2,13,14,22; 29:23;30:1,3;31:14,17; 32:7,8,14,21;34:8,19; 35:21,24;36:15;37:5; 39:7,17;40:16,19,25; 41:2,21;46:8;47:3; 53:6,21;57:25;58:2 days (15) 19:18;22:2; 23:1;24:16,17;25:5,9, 15,16;26:17;28:10; 29:13,15;30:9;44:13 **deadline (7)** 13:4;17:6; 21:24;22:11;26:17,22; 46:8 deadlines (2) 51:20; 65:24 **Deaf (1)** 6:15 deal (1) 53:23 dealt (1) 48:14 **debunking (1)** 55:3 **December (3)** 59:12,14, decided (1) 17:16 decimated (1) 62:23 decision (3) 9:21,25; 59:18 **defer (1)** 11:10 definitely (4) 7:3;22:7, 19;38:11 delay (3) 20:16;50:17, 17 delays (1) 23:12 demanding (2) 41:9,18 demographics (1) 58:16 **depending (1)** 59:13 design (3) 32:5;33:9; 66:2 designed (1) 32:21 details (1) 38:15 **devastated (1)** 36:23 develop (1) 9:13 Developmental (1) 10:17 difference (4) 36:15; 38:25;47:25;51:25 different (12) 6:3;8:25, 25;46:19,24;47:6;48:1; 49:17,19;58:21,24; 59:21 differently (2) 47:10; 54:8 direction (1) 45:9 directly (2) 24:7;32:16 director (2) 11:24;12:5 **Director's (2)** 5:13,18 **Disability (1)** 10:17 discussed (2) 24:8; 43:25 **Discussion (13)** 3:18, 21;5:12;14:20;20:14;

23:20;54:15;55:17;

**equipment (11)** 17:23;

**especially (2)** 12:21;

**essentially (2)** 46:5;

established (2) 45:7;

establishing (1) 57:17

even (7) 12:4;14:1,12,

13;27:22;32:5;37:6

events (3) 16:3,8;59:14

eventuality (1) 36:3

everybody (4) 4:21;

5:17;27:16;67:23

everyone's (1) 66:20

evidence (2) 43:15;

**example (8)** 32:24;

45:14;55:8,11

**exciting (1)** 10:19

11:24;12:4

**existed (1)** 50:11

**expected (1)** 36:9

**expired (1)** 66:11

**experience (1)** 38:14

experts (5) 43:5,5,6,7,

**explaining (2)** 37:19;

**explanation (1)** 44:23

**extension (1)** 26:20

**extent (1)** 44:10

**eye (1)** 62:2

**expect (1)** 5:23

14

55:2

exist (1) 51:6

37:1:55:11

**excellent (3)** 36:22;

excited (2) 62:20:66:4

**Excuse (2)** 6:17;7:22

**Executive (4)** 5:13,18;

36:4;37:6,8;44:25;

47:11

24:19,20;30:15;32:3;

33:8;37:20,21;39:24,

envelope (1) 51:1

equate (1) 19:19

25:42:3

38:21

57:1

et (2) 36:6,6

**etiquette (1)** 4:1

event (1) 43:24

59:6,8,17,25;60:2 **dismissed (2)** 46:17,22 dispel (1) 20:9 distancing (4) 18:1,1,5, 23 **distinct (1)** 36:15 **distinction (1)** 49:12 distinguish (1) 32:8 disturbing (2) 36:19; 37:15 divorced (1) 52:4 **Donald (1)** 46:23 done (19) 12:1,5,21; 20:23;25:24;27:18; 30:14,16,18;31:5;37:1; 42:5,10,11;43:9,15; 54:5;59:22,23 double-check (1) 16:23 down (5) 22:20;37:8; 53:8;55:11;57:21 dramatic (1) 45:23 dramatically (1) 45:13 dries (1) 32:13 drive (1) 31:13 driving (1) 56:23 drop (9) 18:8,9,10;20:5, 8;21:23;22:1,21;33:24 dropping (1) 53:6 dry (1) 32:17 **Ducey (1)** 10:18 due (1) 10:1 **duplicated (1)** 34:11 duplication (5) 33:15, 18;34:4,4;36:7 during (7) 17:4,11; 24:24,24;27:4;43:9; 65:13 dwindled (1) 53:8

#### ${f E}$

earlier (1) 20:6 early (30) 8:8;18:18; 20:2,10,23;21:8;22:1; 23:6;25:9;27:22;28:11; 29:17,19,25;30:5; 34:16,17;38:25;39:1,9, 10,15;40:17,18,20,23; 41:1,3;53:6,21 echo (2) 12:18;54:20 **ed (3)** 59:15;62:20; 64:10 **educate (5)** 17:13; 18:15;33:11;34:14; 41:11 educating (4) 19:24; 21:10;55:11;58:17 education (23) 5:22; 6:16;8:21;17:17;18:14; 19:12;22:22;23:3; 29:10;33:5;35:3;38:11; 39:21,24;41:7,20;44:4, 18;53:8;54:5;58:9;

64:8:65:20 educational (1) 12:1 effect (2) 40:6;51:16 **efficiency (1)** 23:19 **effort (2)** 5:23;12:1 **efforts (6)** 16:6;20:24; 22:22;25:2;43:12; 44:19 either (3) 30:1;34:9,20 elected (1) 54:11 election (121) 5:22,25; 8:22,23;9:7,10,23; 10:22;11:14;12:1,20; 13:22;14:5,20;15:7,12, 21;16:4,9,18;17:9,14; 19:18;20:22;21:23; 22:2,5,12,14,21;23:2,6, 8;24:18,18,20,24;25:5, 10,10,15,17;26:17,18; 27:2,9;28:5,10;29:14, 16,18,21,23,24;30:1,3, 15,16,20,24;31:6,14, 17;32:3,7,8,14,21; 33:18;34:8,19,25; 35:21,22,24;36:2,18, 24;37:5,7,9,10,17,18; 39:7,17;40:2,2,16,19, 25;41:2,16;42:2,3,5,6; 43:5,14,16;44:11;46:8; 47:3,19;48:2,18;49:15; 50:2;51:9,11,12;52:11; 53:7;54:22;56:14;57:4, 10,25;58:2;65:13; 66:16 **Elections (19)** 3:5; 11:23;12:2;35:16,21, 25;38:16;43:8;52:10, 12;53:5;55:2;57:6,20; 62:4,21;63:13;65:12, **electronic (2)** 41:24,25 electronically (1) 33:16 eligible (2) 27:1,4 **else (2)** 65:24;66:16 email (2) 13:14;21:9 **emails (2)** 9:9;33:3 **emphasis (1)** 44:8 **encourage (1)** 23:9 **encouraging (1)** 66:14 end (2) 46:9;59:22 ended (3) 23:2;26:21, 22 endless (1) 66:10 engaged (1) 58:3

**enough (1)** 54:6

ensure (8) 17:22;

49:16

enter (1) 67:5

**envelop (1)** 20:11

**entry (1)** 8:7

18:16;19:2;27:18;

**ensuring (3)** 38:2,13;

37:12;40:24;42:7,18

#### F

facilitate (1) 13:7 facilities (1) 18:4 facility (2) 13:6;14:2 fact (7) 29:8;34:25; 36:10,12;37:2,14; 62:21 factor (1) 37:16 facts (1) 65:24 factual (2) 57:8,12 fair (1) 47:10 faith (1) 36:10

fall (1) 61:22 family (1) 17:19 fantastic (1) 12:23 far (6) 18:14;24:23; 38:17;46:21;54:7;63:3 fashion (1) 44:5 fast-drying (1) 39:7 faster (2) 24:21,22 fastest (1) 32:13 fault (1) 37:17 fed (3) 34:9,20;39:10 federal (1) 25:10 feed (2) 32:15;39:8 feeds (2) 33:20;42:13 feel (4) 13:16;22:16; 36:14;53:13 felt (2) 13:17;37:24 few (2) 38:18;58:6 figure (1) 21:20 filed (1) 10:3 fill (1) 31:20 filtered (1) 65:16 final (3) 27:2;50:18; 51:12 finalize (1) 15:11 **finally (4)** 10:8;45:10; 50:20;52:7 **find (4)** 7:20;49:11; 50:10;64:8 finish (3) 25:5,17,20 finishes (1) 8:10 fire (1) 40:4 first (5) 24:10;29:18; 37:6;46:14;61:5 first-class (1) 20:14 **five (5)** 25:5,9,15;30:9; 45:18 five-day (1) 30:4 fixed (1) 38:4 focus (3) 16:8;19:24; 20:17 focused (1) 16:3 folks (6) 10:11;13:14; 22:1;39:17;44:5,10 follow (4) 16:11;17:24; 30:9;65:12 followed (1) 35:6 following (1) 31:6 follow-up (1) 25:12 Fontes (6) 36:25;46:14, 20;48:6;49:20;51:19 forefront (1) 38:12 form (2) 26:25;60:10 forward (6) 23:15; 26:15;29:11;51:7; 63:19;64:6 forwarded (3) 13:22,23; **Foundation (1)** 9:23 four (1) 58:18

free (1) 22:16 fresh (1) 63:18 freshman (1) 62:16 friend (2) 13:3,17 front (1) 34:21 full (2) 8:7;19:19 Fund (2) 9:22,23 funded (1) 11:6 funds (1) 63:2 further (2) 52:3,11 future (1) 23:16

#### G

**Galen (4)** 3:3,16;5:10;

11:5 game (1) 54:22 gave (1) 35:19 general (10) 5:21;8:22; 9:7;11:7;14:20;16:18; 26:18;27:2;31:6;37:15 **Gina (25)** 6:8,13;8:24; 9:16;13:7,13;14:5,22; 15:2,17,22,23;21:15; 24:4,10;35:10,11;36:6; 37:19;43:21;49:23; 53:10;54:4;55:6;56:2 Gina's (1) 44:17 given (1) 44:6 giving (1) 57:12 glitch (1) 6:24 goes (9) 18:14;30:24; 33:15,17,24;34:1,3; 37:7;38:3 **Good (12)** 3:8,11;4:20; 11:9,13,24;12:5;16:1; 25:18;57:2;63:22; 67:22 Google (3) 56:22;57:1, Governor (3) 10:18; 51:5:66:14 grace (1) 26:23 graph (1) 56:16 gratitude (1) 53:13 great (9) 16:24;17:1; 28:3,20;31:12;54:4; 57:9;58:5;64:5 green (2) 47:4,12 **Group (2)** 6:10;9:22 groups (1) 8:25 guess (2) 64:7;67:19 **Guide (1)** 6:16 guidelines (2) 18:1,24 **guys (4)** 8:13;61:3,4; 63:20

#### Н

hand (8) 4:1;12:16; 25:23;30:16;35:7; 42:10;49:23;50:13 handle (1) 38:1

fourth (1) 31:5

frame (1) 59:19

frankly (1) 16:22

Citizens Clean Elections (
hands (2) 35:21;64:5 happen (3) 13:9;42:23;
66:19 happened (3) 17:5;
31:11;66:17 <b>happening (2)</b> 16:9;
27:5 <b>happens (3)</b> 13:19;
31:13;33:14 happy (3) 11:16;59:2;
63:19 Hard (2) 6:15;50:24 hate (1) 36:14
hear (3) 53:14;61:8; 65:9
heard (1) 12:3 Hearing (5) 6:15;28:21;
29:5;43:14;63:7 heart (2) 57:19;58:8
<b>held (2)</b> 16:19;49:6 <b>Helen (2)</b> 35:18;36:20
<b>Hello (1)</b> 4:16 <b>help (3)</b> 13:11,20;41:6
<b>helpful (3)</b> 8:11;9:4; 60:17
HERRING (2) 61:24; 64:21
herself (1) 13:20 hey (2) 23:3;45:3 high (3) 9:17;15:9;19:5
higher (4) 11:8,15; 16:23;57:3
<b>highest (5)</b> 15:6,6; 16:20,21;24:25
highlight (2) 29:8;56:16 highlighted (1) 8:20
<b>highlights (3)</b> 5:20; 15:1;51:14
highly (1) 19:24 high-speed (1) 34:2
<b>history (6)</b> 21:1;29:3; 34:23;39:16;41:5;43:9 <b>hit (5)</b> 5:20;15:1;45:10,
11;46:13 <b>Hobbs (6)</b> 46:24;47:22;
48:3,14;49:14;51:18 hoe (1) 63:16
hold (1) 45:18 home (4) 13:5,7;39:3,
honestly (1) 10:10 hope (1) 37:2
hopeful (1) 45:8 hopefully (6) 16:13; 43:20;45:2;56:5;66:19,
19 hopper (1) 48:5 huge (1) 37:16 hundred (2) 22:13; 64:10
I

**ID (2)** 25:12;30:8 idea (1) 44:12 identity (1) 28:16**II (1)** 3:18 **III (1)** 5:12 imagine (1) 53:12 **immense (1)** 53:11 **impact (7)** 20:18,19; 22:24;23:14;28:6; 31:24;32:23 impacted (1) 20:15 impacts (1) 23:12 **implement (1)** 18:5 implemented (1) 17:25important (8) 28:23; 29:7,14;32:7;41:19,22; 44:4,15 **impossible (1)** 47:24 **impressed (2)** 54:25; inadvertent (2) 54:24, 25 included (3) 6:11;21:6; 65:25 includes (1) 30:13 increase (1) 18:8 increasing (1) 49:24 **incredibly (1)** 15:9 indicative (1) 36:12 **information (21)** 6:6; 23:16:28:4,20:31:9; 34:14:40:9.15:41:14: 43:3;49:6;55:7,8; 56:22;57:2,8,12,13,17; 65:16:66:1 infrastructure (2) 21:1; 28:25 ink (6) 31:22;32:12,16, 19;38:22;39:7 inquiries (1) 31:10 insight (1) 44:14 instead (1) 40:19 instructions (1) 39:2 **instrument (3)** 31:20; 32:6,9 instruments (1) 33:7 integrity (3) 30:21; 36:23;63:12 intentionally (1) 55:9 interest (2) 5:24;17:19 **interested (1)** 38:14 **interesting (1)** 23:13 **interests (1)** 52:5 **interrupt (1)** 6:19 into (4) 33:24;37:5; 45:11;50:10 introduction (1) 15:4 inundated (1) 33:3 **invaluable (1)** 66:7 invested (1) 58:7 involved (2) 26:23;

52:13

involving (2) 6:14;

**Public Meeting** 47:15 **issue (7)** 23:21;27:8,8; 40:6;44:25;46:17;47:9 **issued (2)** 31:17;39:2 issues (8) 6:1;9:13; 10:12;16:9;17:5;23:11; 27:11;44:11 Item (6) 3:18;5:12; 14:19;55:17,22;59:6 items (1) 24:21 **IV (1)** 14:19 J **January (3)** 16:7;56:7; 59:15 job (11) 11:24;12:5,20, 23;13:16;35:24;36:22; 37:1;53:11;54:4;55:5 joined (2) 4:12;64:19 joining (1) 10:21 Jones (2) 47:16,18 judges (1) 51:16 judiciary (1) 51:19 Julian (1) 9:11 jump (4) 16:15;17:10; 26:15;29:11 K **Kara (5)** 6:23;7:4,8; 10:15,19 Karen (1) 35:19 **KARLSON (9)** 4:8,11; 7:6,12,15,22;8:3,13; 10:15 keep (4) 8:3,9;16:15; 17:15 **kept (2)** 9:8,12 kicks (1) 34:3 kidding (1) 64:9 **Kimble (21)** 3:12,13; 5:6,7;54:16,17,18,20; 60:3,4,5,7,15,18,19; 61:15,16;67:9,10,17,18 kind (15) 23:18;38:7; 45:6;46:13;52:5,15; 53:2;62:12,21,23;63:5, 13,14,17;66:3 kinds (2) 54:23;65:14 knew (2) 17:20;18:2 knowing (2) 18:20; 21:11 knowledge (2) 10:5; 46:12 knows (1) 53:9

landscaping (1) 23:25 language (1) 35:18 large (2) 18:8;65:20 largely (2) 52:16,17 larger (1) 18:4 last (7) 10:1;11:14; 13:25;21:16;46:20; 53:1:59:12 late (2) 9:22;12:17 later (1) 46:18 launch (1) 18:25 law (5) 24:14;25:4,4, 16;42:19 laws (1) 37:3 lawsuit (2) 26:19;49:18 lawyers (1) 48:24 lead (2) 31:18;45:18 leaders (1) 36:12 leadership (1) 62:11 leading (2) 8:22;17:14 leads (1) 30:21 League (2) 65:19; 66:10 learn (1) 38:15 learned (2) 62:14,18 learning (2) 35:21;58:4 least (1) 51:17 leave (2) 43:3;60:1 **led (5)** 31:23;36:20,22; 40:21:41:5 **left (1)** 64:16 **Legacy (2)** 9:22,23 **legal (6)** 10:16;43:19; 45:11;47:9;49:19; 52:16 **legislative (1)** 35:18 legislature (4) 24:13, 16;35:17;45:24 lends (1) 57:17 less (2) 18:19;23:21 **letters (1)** 66:13 **letting (1)** 38:5 level (3) 9:18;29:2,6 levels (1) 6:3 lies (1) 63:17 **light (3)** 57:4,4;65:13 limit (2) 18:21;66:20 limits (1) 23:19 **Linda (1)** 35:19 line (3) 64:24;65:7,8 lines (2) 45:25;46:2 lingering (1) 51:22 links (1) 40:10 list (1) 28:11 litigation (3) 15:20; 47:22;50:15 little (12) 15:18;22:8; 23:21;29:12;38:20; 40:12,13;48:1;50:24; 53:3;55:20;57:22 live (3) 7:2;8:8;42:12

lack (2) 36:10;62:16

landed (1) 25:19

lives (1) 13:19 livestreaming (4) 6:24, 25;7:3,11 living (2) 13:8,9 local (1) 52:24 located (1) 18:9 location (1) 18:22 locations (5) 17:22; 18:19;19:4;20:7;29:23 logged (1) 45:3 logic (2) 25:23;30:13 long (7) 15:8;17:7; 21:1;35:25;37:21;46:7; 66:12 longer (2) 21:25;61:24 long-standing (2) 28:25;29:3 long-term (2) 13:6;14:2 long-time (1) 10:16 look (9) 19:5;25:13; 41:4;54:13;56:17; 57:13;63:9,18;64:6 looked (1) 40:20 looking (11) 18:4; 23:15;34:17;56:9,13; 57:6,14,24,25;63:10,19 looks (1) 44:24 **lost (2)** 36:23;47:19 lot (35) 5:24;8:20;9:11, 11;11:15;14:3;17:13; 18:12:19:11,12:20:17, 17;27:6,13;28:1,19; 30:19;31:10;34:12; 35:2;38:1,17;39:17; 41:9,17;43:4;52:22; 53:13,19;55:12;62:18, 25;63:25;65:13,23 love (1) 22:6 lower (1) 11:8  $\mathbf{M}$ 

ma'am (1) 67:2 machine (7) 31:25; 32:15,17;33:22;34:3; 37:10;39:11 machines (1) 42:8 mail (34) 13:4,22,23, 25;14:1;17:7,18;18:20; 19:15,18,21;20:2,4,5, 14,15,22;21:2,21,23; 27:10,12,14;28:5,13, 22,25;29:9;39:3;46:1, 1;53:3;57:16;65:23 mailbox (1) 18:11 mail-in (2) 47:7;51:1 mailing (1) 23:12 maintain (1) 18:23 makes (1) 23:21 making (3) 20:1;51:15; 63:24 management (1) 42:3 manual (2) 37:4;50:2

**Knox (6)** 64:23;65:2,7,

L

8,11,11

**Kyle (2)** 10:21,23

**L&As (1)** 35:9

manufacturer's (1) 32:4 many (6) 18:7;24:18; 46:24;53:3,3;59:21 Maricopa (19) 10:6,7; 13:8,12,15;21:8;24:19; 31:16;32:2;33:8;35:6, 20;36:21;37:23;39:1, 23;43:10;58:17,20 Maricopa's (1) 43:11 markers (1) 18:2 mask (1) 18:22 matching (1) 63:2 math (1) 19:19 mathematically (1) 47:24 mathematicians (1) 43:6 matter (1) 26:3 mattered (1) 13:17 matters (3) 7:8;48:25; 49:1 **may (5)** 10:9;47:12,15; 55:20;67:20 maybe (9) 16:22;20:12; 29:3;36:13,13;57:5; 61:20;63:9,17 mean (30) 13:16,18; 15:2;19:16;22:14;24:5; 27:12;35:17;36:8,13; 37:11,21;43:22;45:5, 13,21,22;46:3,3;49:5,5, 10:50:6.16.23:53:10: 60:12,13;62:13,25 means (8) 19:25;35:4; 37:23;44:20;45:7;47:5; 56:24,25 meant (1) 14:3 measures (2) 17:14; 18:16 mechanics (1) 5:24 mechanisms (1) 42:17 media (4) 5:24;6:5; 27:7;40:10 medial (1) 40:5 meet (3) 10:23;42:20; 46:8 meeting (9) 3:5;7:18; 8:9;10:5;57:19;58:12, 16;61:25;67:8 meetings (7) 3:20;4:4; 6:9;59:20;63:24;65:17; 66:12 member (1) 64:18 members (1) 64:19 mention (3) 10:14;13:2; 65:15 mentioned (9) 16:20; 20:6;28:24;30:4;34:20; 36:7;49:23;56:7;57:23 merit (1) 49:13 messaging (1) 23:15 met (2) 8:23,24 metrics (2) 16:6;56:8

Meyer (38) 3:10,11;5:4, 5;21:15,19,19;22:4; 23:17,23,24;24:3; 45:17;48:7,9,12,17,20; 49:2,8;53:25;54:2,3; 55:10;59:9;60:23,24; 61:2,13,14,22;64:1,3,4, 23;65:1;67:15,16 Meyer's (2) 24:6;45:11 microphones (1) 8:9 might (2) 4:13;60:17 Mike (3) 11:10,11; 62:25 million (2) 45:18;53:9 mind (4) 6:1;15:23; 53:16;60:15 mine (1) 39:19 minimum (1) 19:14 miniscule (1) 48:21 minute (1) 53:2 minutes (6) 3:19;4:3; 7:1,16,24;8:6 misinformation (4) 31:19;33:1;40:4;41:6  $\textbf{misinformed (1)}\ 47{:}13$ missed (1) 8:8mission (1) 63:14 misunderstanding (1) 40:14 misunderstandings (1) 54:24 model (2) 49:25;50:1 moderator (3) 14:11,12, 15 mom (3) 13:8,19;14:3 moment (1) 16:13 moms's (1) 13:22 Monday (1) 31:5 money (2) 63:6,10 monitor (1) 66:23 months (2) 10:24;21:3 more (22) 6:1;9:6,16; 10:10;16:3,5;20:12; 22:8;26:2;38:14,15; 40:21;44:9;46:6;47:14; 48:3;55:20;56:7;57:22; 58:4;63:12,14 morning (5) 3:9,11; 4:20;11:13;16:1 most (6) 15:5;16:24; 43:8;45:23;46:5;62:20 mother (1) 13:5 motion (16) 3:23,24; 4:3,6,23;5:1;7:24;8:2; 60:9,11,14,21,24,25; 67:6,12 move (3) 55:21;60:19; 67:7 moving (3) 27:10; 60:15,16 much (5) 13:1;62:14; 63:23;66:10,25

mute (2) 8:10;52:20

mystifies (1) 36:1 myths (2) 20:9;27:14 N **national (5)** 29:2,5; 43:4,5,6 Native (1) 6:10 **naturally (1)** 56:21 **nature (1)** 47:14 Navajo (1) 58:21 necessarily (2) 44:22, necessary (5) 7:7,23; 19:7;39:6;40:10 need (6) 13:13;25:11, 22;30:9,20;61:4 **needed (4)** 19:3;22:18; 31:20;37:24 needs (1) 58:12 negative (1) 50:23 nervous (1) 36:24 neutral (2) 57:7,7 never-ending (1) 55:8 nevertheless (2) 51:5,8new (13) 24:18,19; 32:2;33:8;36:25;37:2, 20,25;39:24,25;59:7; 62:3;66:22 news (6) 10:19:36:14, 17;43:25;53:14,18 **next (8)** 9:17;10:11; 15:14;19:10;43:2; 55:21;63:8;66:8 Nice (2) 4:22;5:17 **night (4)** 23:6;29:18,22, 24 **nobody (1)** 45:15 **nominate (1)** 60:7 nomination (3) 60:13, 13;61:8 None (1) 37:25 normal (1) 11:8 **note (2)** 29:14;56:4 **noted (1)** 51:6 **notice (4)** 28:9,9;44:10; 52:1 **noticed (2)** 4:11;31:22 notices (1) 11:25 **November (8)** 3:4; 16:19;22:18;31:8; 56:14,15;59:12,20 nowhere (1) 55:9 number (8) 6:2;11:6, 13;22:3,5,17;47:24; 65:21 numbers (1) 22:12 numerous (1) 52:8 **nursing (1)** 13:5 О

obtain (1) 66:1 **obviously (3)** 9:12; 15:4;62:24 occur (5) 30:12;31:7; 41:10,13,18 occurred (2) 25:1;31:7 o'clock (1) 13:25 October (9) 3:20;4:4; 10:4;23:2;26:18,20,22; 27:1,3 off (8) 20:8;21:23;22:1, 21;52:10,20;53:6; 61:22 Office (19) 17:12,13; 19:2,22,24;27:7;28:3, 19;31:3;33:3;35:23; 36:20,22;41:8;42:7,23; 44:19,20;57:11 officers (1) 51:9 official (8) 23:8;31:4,6; 33:7;42:21;54:11;57:1, officially (1) 30:25 officials (7) 30:24;36:2, 18;37:18,18;43:14; 54:10 Once (4) 31:1;32:16; 50:25;51:2 one (16) 9:20;10:3; 16:13,20,22;31:16; 35:16;43:8;44:1;46:25; 56:1,4,15,18,24;58:13 ones (1) 53:20 ongoing (3) 5:22;6:8; 8:21 online (8) 10:20;21:8; 34:15;35:1;40:15,20; 41:4:43:23 only (3) 27:16;48:14,25 onto (1) 31:22 open (2) 7:18;10:9 **opportunity (3)** 35:20; 41:10;66:25 optimization (1) 57:3 option (2) 4:2;18:13 options (4) 18:17; 19:25;46:5,7 order (2) 3:4,6 organic (1) 56:21 organically (1) 56:21 organization (1) 57:8 original (1) 41:20 Osborne (1) 35:19 otherwise (2) 43:25; 44:9 out (27) 6:12;7:20; 10:12;11:24;13:3,10; 15:20;17:2;18:3;27:14; 31:20;33:17;34:3;35:3; 36:3;41:6;43:7,10; 44:21;47:23;52:25; 55:7,9,10;57:10;58:13; 65:20

outcome (1) 48:21 outreach (1) 16:5 outside (1) 13:6 outstanding (1) 66:24 over (15) 7:5;10:11; 11:13,14;13:15;15:2, 13,17,23;23:11;24:2; 43:18;53:8;58:14;63:1 overall (3) 27:13;28:22; 44:7 overturning (1) 49:14 overview (5) 14:21; 15:3;52:15;56:8;59:1 over-vote (2) 47:5,6 over-votes (1) 32:24 own (3) 35:24;38:7; 65:20

#### P

packed (1) 59:16 packet (1) 16:11 page (3) 28:4,7;35:4 pages (1) 57:14 pandemic (5) 12:22; 17:4,11;24:24;43:9 panicked (1) 13:3 paper (2) 41:23,24 part (4) 8:8;42:15; 46:10;63:14 participants (1) 59:25 participate (4) 17:2; 19:8;54:12;66:13 participated (1) 27:6 participating (2) 6:8; 11:6 participation (7) 15:8; 19:1;42:12;57:18; 62:24,25;63:2 particular (13) 9:11; 13:2;15:21;22:25; 23:10;24:19,24;28:5; 40:6;42:4,25;43:1; 57:24 particularly (2) 8:24; 12:24 parties (4) 30:17;36:12, 13;42:12 partisan (1) 36:16 **partnered (1)** 6:16 partners (1) 23:9 Party (4) 48:6;49:20; 51:19;57:7 pass (1) 62:12 past (5) 21:3;38:18; 45:24;56:20;63:21 **PATON (83)** 3:3,4,10, 12,15,16,23;4:5,10,14, 17,19,22,25;5:4,6,8,10, 11,15;8:18;11:2,4,5,17, 21;12:7,9,12,15;14:8, 10,16,19;15:24;16:16; 26:7,9,12;35:13;38:9;

**observation (1)** 42:11

44:2,15;52:21,22; 53:25:54:2.4.14.18: 55:14,16,23,25;56:2; 59:3,5,10;60:5,9,21,25; 61:6,10,13,15,17,19; 62:1,2,7;64:2,13,15; 65:4,10;67:2,5,11,15, 17,19,20 pen (2) 39:2,4 pending (2) 9:25;49:22 Pennsylvania (1) 53:1 **people (20)** 8:7;11:25; 18:2,19;22:22;23:9; 31:13;36:2;37:5,14; 40:11,22;52:24;53:6, 19,20;56:21;57:4,6; 58:2 people's (1) 13:19 percent (8) 16:25; 20:21,23;21:17,20; 35:7,8;64:10 percentage (2) 21:22; 50:12 **Perfect (1)** 16:17 performance (1) 56:8 perhaps (2) 15:7;29:2 **period (5)** 25:6,14; 26:23;27:5;30:4 permanent (1) 28:11 **permission (2)** 8:16; 55:21 **person (5)** 17:16; 38:25;39:1,9;57:15 personal (1) 17:23 personally (1) 64:8 perspective (1) 24:9 **petition (1)** 10:3 **PEVL (1)** 20:3 philosophical (1) 49:18 Phoenix (1) 58:20 **phone (3)** 9:9;33:3; 43:24 physical (1) 18:23 picture (1) 52:16 pie (2) 58:14,15 **piece (3)** 30:14;47:21; 62:20 **pieces (1)** 39:20 Pinal (3) 13:10,11,14 pipe (1) 38:5 pivots (1) 9:2 **place (14)** 17:15;20:25; 21:1,4;31:18;32:10,16; 33:6,21,25;37:9;42:17; 43:12;47:3 placed (1) 28:8 places (1) 12:2 **Plaintiffs (1)** 46:17 plan (1) 20:4 platforms (1) 9:3 play (1) 39:20 please (3) 8:9;14:11; 16:14

pleasure (1) 65:12 **plumping (1)** 54:23 **pm (7)** 22:21;23:6; 26:20;27:4;29:17,17; 46:8 point (13) 10:6;15:19; 23:7;29:20;45:21; 46:15,20;48:23;51:15; 52:4,16;58:13;59:17 pointed (2) 44:21;55:10 poisons (1) 53:2 **policy (1)** 35:18 political (5) 30:17; 42:12;52:1,5;57:18 politicization (1) 57:5 **poll (6)** 17:23;19:1,6,8, 9;42:15 polling (8) 31:18;32:10, 16;33:6,21,25;37:9; polls (1) 30:8 popped (2) 55:1,9 portion (1) 28:15 position (1) 50:7 possible (12) 3:18; 5:12;6:25;14:20;20:1, 4;22:23;23:10;50:7; 53:17;55:17;59:7 post (3) 22:18;35:9; 58:2 postage (1) 20:11 Postal (4) 17:6;19:11, 13;20:19 postcards (2) 65:21,22 **posted (1)** 23:5 post-election (4) 10:12; 25:21;30:11;41:21 postman (1) 27:24 potential (5) 20:18; 23:12;48:4;49:13,13 power (1) 37:7 **PPE (1)** 40:1 practically (1) 60:14 **precinct (2)** 50:4,10 **Preference (1)** 40:1 prepaid (1) 20:11 **prepared (2)** 6:2;18:20 presentation (3) 16:2,5, presentations (1) 6:14**President (2)** 46:24; 48:13  $\textbf{Presidential (3)}\ 40{:}1;$ 48:2,17 press (1) 47:4 pressing (1) 47:12 **pretty (4)** 5:21;11:16; 12:17;59:16 preview (1) 59:14 primary (2) 20:22;40:2

prior (2) 21:1;42:2

probably (5) 5:23;

10:10;15:5;18:18;

45:18 problem (1) 23:18 problems (1) 32:20 procedures (8) 24:20; 25:24;30:19;33:6;37:3; 42:17;44:22;50:2 **proceed (3)** 26:11; 40:7;55:21 **proceedings (1)** 67:24 process (19) 17:17; 20:13;28:2,6;29:4,15; 30:3,22;31:13;33:11; 34:17;35:4;39:12; 41:13;42:16;47:1,7; 57:19;66:2 processed (1) 20:15 **processes (2)** 6:7; 41:21 processing (3) 20:16; 29:25;34:1 **procuring (1)** 30:5 produce (1) 35:4 professional (1) 36:21 **programmed (1)** 42:4 prominent (1) 39:22 **promoting (1)** 57:18 **protective (1)** 17:23 protocols (1) 17:24 proved (1) 19:11 provide (7) 6:4;23:3; 24:13;25:11;30:8;41:7, provided (5) 31:10; 32:10;33:7;40:9;41:20 proving (1) 50:23 **provisional (3)** 25:11; 30:2,10 **public (8)** 7:2;54:10; 64:17,18,19;65:5; 66:21:67:3 publicly (1) 22:9 **Purcell (2)** 35:19;36:20 purchase (1) 32:2 purchased (2) 24:19; 32:10 **push (1)** 23:8 **put (9)** 17:15;20:10; 26:18;35:3;37:10; 42:17;43:10,12;49:10 putting (2) 21:3;48:2 Q queries (1) 57:22

queries (1) 57:22 quick (2) 21:16;43:21 quickly (6) 15:1;33:2; 44:9;46:14;55:7;56:5 quite (6) 16:22;22:19; 51:3;58:3;66:8,11 quorum (1) 3:17

R

race (1) 43:1 races (1) 32:23 radio (1) 12:3 raise (2) 4:1;50:21 raised (1) 12:16 ran (2) 34:6;47:16 random (2) 30:18; 42:10 range (2) 56:13;57:24 ranking (1) 57:3 rapid (1) 40:4 rates (1) 15:8 reach (1) 13:3 reaching (3) 11:24; 58:18,19 read (10) 7:16,21,23; 8:4,6,12;31:25;33:14; 40:14;41:24 readable (1) 34:5 reading (3) 4:1;8:11; 51:18 ready (2) 3:4;25:20 really (38) 8:22;9:21; 10:13,13;13:17,17; 14:1,3,25;15:9,9;16:3, 7;17:1;25:1,18;28:3; 29:7,8;34:7;36:19; 39:21;47:22;48:3;50:1, 20;51:13;52:3;53:19; 55:5,10;57:9,19;58:8, 13;63:9;66:4,21 reason (4) 32:12;33:13, 22;39:6 reasons (1) 36:16 recall (2) 47:15;58:7 receive (1) 19:20 received (4) 21:13; 22:11;41:8;52:8 receiving (3) 27:19; 56:17:58:11 recent (1) 16:24 recognize (3) 12:25; 13:15;14:5 recommendation (1) 32:5 recommended (2) 32:6, record (5) 36:2;37:25; 39:15,18;60:17 recorder (2) 36:25;37:2 recording (3) 7:9,10; 22:12 records (3) 16:25; 39:14;58:11 recount (8) 41:12,12, 18;42:20,22,24,25;43:4 recounts (3) 17:9;41:8,

recreates (1) 34:4

recruiting (1) 19:9

redesign (1) 58:7

redundancies (1) 38:1

recruit (1) 18:25

**reference (2)** 24:14; 65:25 refiled (1) 46:19 registered (4) 27:3,17, 19;28:10 **registering (1)** 57:16 registration (5) 17:6; 26:15,16,22,25 reinvigorate (1) 63:14 rejected (1) 22:10 related (1) 44:12 relationships (1) 45:2 released (1) 29:19 reliable (1) 14:2 relief (2) 51:4,24 remaining (1) 29:21 remanded (1) 10:6 **report (5)** 5:13,19;8:20; 10:14,25 reported (1) 29:24 **reporter (5)** 7:13,16,19; 8:6.10 **Republican (3)** 48:6; 49:20;51:19 request (5) 13:4,25; 19:17;20:1;27:17 **requesting (1)** 19:15 requests (1) 52:2 require (1) 19:11 requirements (1) 18:6 research (1) 22:8 resolved (1) 52:17 **respect (4)** 5:18;9:19; 46:11.25 respond (1) 57:11 response (9) 3:22;11:3; 12:11;14:9;55:15;59:4; 61:18;64:14;67:4 resulted (1) 44:8 results (14) 23:5;29:18, 22;31:1,4;41:16;42:18; 47:1,12;49:15;50:16; 51:12;52:2,11 return (8) 8:14;18:13; 19:20;20:5,11;22:23; 23:9;46:1 returning (2) 19:15; 20:4 **review (4)** 9:6,7;10:3; 52:6 reviewed (1) 47:6 right (19) 6:1;8:22; 16:12;21:25;22:21; 24:21;25:7;30:1;33:21; 34:10,21,21;38:3; 48:18,19,23;50:25; 56:16;63:17 rise (1) 63:6 risk (1) 19:5 **Rivko (3)** 65:2,7,11 road (1) 63:16

19,22;7:8;15:25;16:17;

**ROBERTS (17)** 6:17,

**specifics (1)** 38:16

22:4;24:12;26:8,10,13; 38:6.10:55:19.24:56:1. 3 role (1) 6:8 **roll (7)** 4:13;5:1;7:1,6, 23;61:1;67:12 room (1) 45:1 rose (1) 36:25 round (1) 29:18 roundtrip (2) 19:14,20 ruled (1) 26:19 rule-making (1) 64:9 ruling (2) 27:2;50:19 run (2) 32:18;34:2 run-up (1) 44:3

#### S

safe (1) 17:15 safeguard (1) 40:24 safeguards (1) 41:21 safety (3) 17:14,22; 18:16 same (3) 37:2;39:19; 58:1 sample (3) 30:18; 42:10;50:4 **sanitation (1)** 17:24 sat (2) 51:17,17 saw (6) 11:25;12:3,17; 18:8,12;20:22 **saying (3)** 36:16;45:17; 53:16 schedule (1) 59:13 screen (4) 16:12,12,14; 56:6 search (4) 56:21;57:3, 22;58:10 seat (1) 47:17 second (14) 4:7,24;5:1; 6:20;7:24;24:7;46:21, 23:52:20:60:22.24: 61:1;67:10,12 **secrecy (1)** 18:3 **Secretary (10)** 6:11; 17:12;19:1,23;31:2,3; 35:22;42:7,23;66:14 **Secretary's (1)** 44:19 section (4) 9:17;10:22; 43:4,19 **secure (5)** 18:9;27:13; 28:2;43:8,16 security (7) 17:7;27:11, 13;28:7,22;43:5;65:23 **seeing (8)** 23:11;24:23; 33:2;36:15,17,17; 38:21;39:18 **seems (5)** 36:16;49:9; 50:21;54:21;55:7 **selection (1)** 50:13 send (2) 20:13;28:9 sense (1) 37:15 sent (5) 27:15;40:17,

18;65:20;66:14 **separated (1)** 51:1 **September (1)** 56:13 serve (2) 42:14,15 **Service (3)** 17:6;20:19; 66:21 set (1) 46:4 **settings (1)** 9:1 seven (1) 24:16 several (6) 22:13; 31:22;56:24;59:12; 60:1;65:17 **share (6)** 16:12,13; 41:14;43:3,13;59:1 **shared (1)** 33:10 **Sharpie (4)** 31:21; 32:13;39:4;46:17 **Sharpies (11)** 17:8; 31:15,16,17;32:6,8,20; 36:5;39:6,25,25 **show (2)** 34:24;56:5 **showing (1)** 55:3 **shows (3)** 42:21;57:10; 58:16 **shy (1)** 16:25 side (1) 31:23 sign (1) 52:10 signal (1) 14:11 **signature (7)** 25:7,8; 28:14;30:5,7;34:18; 39:12 significant (2) 51:15,16 siloing (1) 44:18 single (2) 36:3,3 site (1) 58:15 **situation (1)** 36:4 six (1) 21:3 skills (1) 66:3 **slide (2)** 21:16;43:2 slightly (1) 46:19 slow (1) 53:17 social (4) 17:25;18:1; 40:4,10 somebody (4) 13:10; 16:14;27:24;41:15 somehow (1) 63:12 someone (1) 23:24 **soon (6)** 20:1,3;22:23; 23:10;55:1;66:19 **Sorry (7)** 3:13;8:3; 12:14;21:15;48:8; 55:19;64:25 sort (10) 9:7,17;10:12; 16:8;18:11;23:20;24:8; 50:22;52:4;63:18 sought (1) 51:4 **source (3)** 56:18;57:1,2 **spacing (1)** 18:3 speak (2) 4:2;67:1 **Speaker (1)** 21:18 **special (1)** 13:9 **specific (1)** 44:12

speech (1) 62:8 **speed (1)** 20:13 **spilled (1)** 36:6 spits (1) 33:17 spot (1) 25:18 **spot-on (1)** 25:2 **spouse's (1)** 39:18 **spread (2)** 33:2;40:4 **spurious (1)** 55:12 staff (12) 6:11;11:23; 12:5,19;13:15;19:3,8; 54:5;59:17;65:15;66:6, stamp (2) 20:10,16 stamps (1) 20:13 stand (1) 18:2 standard (1) 48:4 **stands (1)** 57:10 start (3) 25:14;29:16; 31:16 started (2) 35:17,22 state (13) 10:18;12:2; 15:12,12;20:21;21:2; 26:16;31:3;41:23;52:9; 58:17,18;66:15 **statements (1)** 43:10 **States (7)** 17:5;19:10, 13;20:19;29:3;52:23; **State's (8)** 6:11:17:12; 19:2,24;31:3;35:23; 42:7.23 **statewide (2)** 15:11,15 statistics (2) 16:6;56:6 stats (1) 56:12 **status (4)** 21:7;28:17; 40:20;41:4 **statute (5)** 26:16;29:13; 49:22,24;50:2 **statutes (2)** 19:17; 41:11 **statutorily (1)** 52:13 **statutory (2)** 25:6;51:20 stemming (1) 56:20 **step (1)** 24:5 **steps (1)** 66:9 **Steve (2)** 8:1;11:20 **still (22)** 9:20;13:9,13; 15:20;17:1;22:13,18; 25:20;28:12,13;30:19; 32:19;39:11;44:18; 45:14;46:13,21;49:22; 56:6;58:3;62:25;63:1 strategy (1) 49:13 **streamed (1)** 7:2 stress (1) 44:1 striking (1) 55:11 stroke (1) 13:5 strong (2) 17:17;20:20 stuck (1) 13:24 **stuff (7)** 36:9;45:11; 52:25;53:1,14;59:15;

66:6 submit (1) 33:24 submitted (1) 26:25 successful (1) 12:20 **suddenly (1)** 36:10 **sufficient (1)** 30:8 **suggestive (1)** 45:24 **Superior (1)** 10:6 **Supervisors (3)** 30:25; 31:1;43:11 supplemental (1) 9:25 support (1) 64:11 supposed (1) 14:12 sure (17) 7:17;10:23; 19:7;34:13;47:20;48:4; 50:15,15;51:3,23;53:7; 55:23,25;64:5;65:16; 66:8,18 surrounding (1) 16:4 suspect (1) 44:14 suspicion (1) 38:20 **suspicions (1)** 55:13 switch (1) 27:24 System (12) 19:11,13; 20:25;21:4,5,9;36:10, 11;38:13;42:3;46:4; 58:4

#### T

tabulate (1) 17:7 tabulated (3) 22:18; 25:25;29:20 tabulating (8) 23:1,4; 24:15,17;25:5,17; 29:16;39:11 tabulation (9) 24:22; 25:1,15,19;29:11; 30:12;32:17;42:8; 43:11 tabulator (11) 32:15,18; 33:14,17,25;34:2,6,9, 20;37:8;39:9 tabulators (2) 41:25; 42:1 tad (1) 11:15 talk (5) 9:5,16;15:18; 27:11;35:5 talked (7) 10:4;28:14, 16;29:12;33:13;44:3; 65:22 talking (1) 44:11 tampering (1) 43:15 taxing (1) 64:9 team (1) 63:22 technical (1) 14:17 technological (2) 9:1,3 terms (8) 6:5,5;7:18; 19:5,8;44:3;49:12; 66:11 testing (5) 25:23;30:14; 32:4;42:1,5 **Thanks (3)** 5:16;61:8;

Thanksgiving (1) 67:23 thinking (2) 20:12; 40:22 **THOMAS (1)** 7:13 **thorough (2)** 32:4;56:8 though (1) 61:9 thought (2) 36:3;53:22 thoughts (2) 26:2;38:7 thousand (1) 22:13 thousands (1) 49:3 thresholds (1) 42:21 thrilled (1) 14:3 throughout (4) 9:9,10; 18:9;44:3 timely (1) 44:5 **timing (4)** 13:21;23:14; 39:13,14 Titla (20) 4:12,12,14, 16,18,20,24,25;5:8,9; 8:1,2;11:19,20,21,22; 12:18;61:17,19;67:20 today (5) 10:20;16:2,7; 17:4;23:4 together (2) 21:3;63:20 **told (2)** 4:1;39:3 **Tom (18)** 6:17,19;8:18; 11:2;14:21;16:19; 22:16;26:1;27:6;43:18; 45:17;48:12;53:24; 54:4;55:6;59:10;60:10; 64:15 took (1) 18:16 top (1) 6:1 topic (1) 19:10 topics (1) 17:3 torch (1) 62:12 torn (1) 36:5 tough (1) 63:16 track (4) 21:7,7,10; 50:24 tracked (1) 53:4 tracking (1) 28:18 tradeoff (1) 46:6 trade-off (1) 46:10 traditional-funded (1) 63:4 **traffic (3)** 56:17;58:1,10 transcript (1) 7:14 transparent (1) 42:16 treat (1) 47:10 triggered (2) 41:12; 42:22 troubleshooter (1) 35:20 **true (1)** 27:16 Trump (9) 46:23;47:22; 48:3,3,13,24;49:14; 51:17,18 trust (4) 27:24;28:2; 36:11;57:18 trusted (1) 56:25 try (4) 22:8;59:20,22;

**specifically (2)** 46:15,16

	T.	T.		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
66:18	verifying (1) 30:6	<b>Wait (2)</b> 61:6,7	45:24;53:3;56:20;58:6;	<b>7:00 (2)</b> 22:21;46:8
trying (1) 8:6	versus (3) 47:22;48:13;	watch (1) 8:8	59:13;60:1	7.00 (2) 22.21,40.8 7th (2) 3:20;4:4
			*	7tii (2) 3.20,4.4
<b>Tuesday (1)</b> 16:19	49:14	way (20) 9:1,2;11:5;	yesterday (1) 51:6	0
turn (3) 15:17;17:1;	vetting (1) 27:18	13:21;14:2;15:4;17:18;	YouTube (1) 6:24	8
23:25	view (4) 7:2;42:13;	18:21;19:2;21:12;		
turned (2) 30:1;47:23	44:23,24	23:20;32:22;35:16;	1	<b>8:00 (3)</b> 23:6;29:17,17
turnout (5) 15:6,7;	vision (1) 63:8	37:12;46:4;47:2;49:11,		<b>80 (4)</b> 16:25;20:21;
16:20,24;24:25	visual (3) 38:21,21;	15;50:10;65:16	<b>1 (1)</b> 46:14	21:17,20
<b>TV (1)</b> 12:4	66:3	ways (2) 38:1;52:23	<b>1:00 (1)</b> 13:25	<b>88 (1)</b> 20:23
twice (1) 40:25	volume (1) 44:7	website (22) 9:12;28:4,	<b>10:58 (1)</b> 67:25	33 (1,) 20.23
two (5) 24:20,21;26:4;	voluntarily (1) 46:17	19;31:12;35:5;40:10;	<b>100 (2)</b> 35:7,8	9
	vote (40) 4:9;5:2;7:17,			,
46:12;57:3		41:14,15;55:2;56:7,12,	<b>11 (1)</b> 19:18	22 (4) 20 10
two-part (1) 24:9	25;13:20;17:16;18:21;	18,23,25;57:14;58:2,7,	<b>11:59 (1)</b> 27:3	<b>90 (1)</b> 28:10
typical (1) 19:6	19:20;20:17,23;27:1,4,	8,10,25;65:14;66:5	<b>13th (1)</b> 56:14	<b>90-day (1)</b> 28:9
<b>Typically (1)</b> 16:4	24;28:1;31:24;34:25;	<b>Weedon (1)</b> 35:19	<b>14 (3)</b> 23:1;24:17;	<b>90s (1)</b> 29:1
typing (1) 56:22	37:9;39:3;40:18,22,25;	week (2) 10:1;15:15	29:15	
	41:3,23;45:18;49:25;	weekly (1) 6:9	<b>15 (2)</b> 31:4;58:19	
$\mathbf{U}$	50:1,3,4,10,11;57:15,	weeks (3) 10:11,24;	<b>15-day (2)</b> 19:14,20	
	15,16;61:8,11,12,14;	38:18	<b>15th (2)</b> 26:22;27:3	
ultimately (1) 47:19	62:2;65:23;67:21	well-reflective (1) 58:15	<b>180 (1)</b> 48:14	
uncertainty (2) 26:24;	vote-by-mail (2) 20:21;	weren't (1) 39:17	19th (1) 3:4	
27:5	29:4	wet (1) 32:19	1 <b>3</b> 01 (1 <b>)</b> 3.4	
			2	
unclear (1) 51:7	voted (15) 18:10;20:22;	Whac-A-Mole (1) 54:23	2	
under (4) 12:21,23,24;	34:8,16,19;38:25;39:1,	what's (3) 15:19;24:7;		
42:11	17,19;40:16,19,25;	45:4	<b>2 (2)</b> 46:20;50:20	
undertake (2) 30:20;	41:2;53:3,21	Whereupon (1) 67:24	<b>20 (2)</b> 25:16;29:13	
41:22	voter (49) 5:22;6:10,16;	whole (3) 8:24;11:15;	<b>2001 (1)</b> 35:16	
undertaken (2) 25:22;	8:21;17:6,18,22;18:10;	53:23	<b>2002 (1)</b> 37:6	
28:16	19:11,17;22:20;23:3;	who's (2) 13:18;58:14	<b>2008 (1)</b> 35:24	
undertook (1) 29:10	26:15,16,21,25;27:3,	whose (1) 66:11	<b>2014 (1)</b> 9:23	
unfortunately (1) 26:5	19;28:10,12;32:14;	wife's (1) 53:4	<b>2020 (3)</b> 4:4,4;14:20	
unique (1) 42:4	33:5,20,23,23;34:25;	willing (1) 64:11	<b>2021 (6)</b> 55:18;59:7;	
United (4) 17:5;19:10,	35:3;36:8,11;38:11;	willy-nilly (1) 52:25	60:8,17,20;62:4	
13;20:18	39:16,21,23;40:16,19,	without (1) 63:2	<b>20th (1)</b> 23:2	
unless (2) 10:25;52:17	24;41:5,7,20;44:4,18;	Women (1) 65:19	<b>21st (1)</b> 56:13	
<b>up (22)</b> 5:19;7:11;8:22,	54:5;57:16;58:9;59:15;	wonderful (3) 21:9;	<b>23rd (2)</b> 15:14;26:20	
23;9:8;14:21;17:14;	62:20;64:7,10;65:20	64:8,11	<b>27th (2)</b> 3:19;4:4	
18:22;20:13;22:21;	voters (56) 17:1,13,15;	word (2) 42:1;62:16	<b>29 (1)</b> 26:17	
23:2,7;26:22;27:9;	18:13,15,17;19:12,16,	words (3) 46:4;48:2;		
29:20;30:9;35:6;38:2;	24;20:12,21,24;21:5,7,	50:25	3	
40:20;46:4;54:24;55:1	10,21;25:6,11;26:25;	work (10) 6:7;9:11;	_	
updated (5) 9:13;	27:7,16;28:21;29:5;	22:7;35:23;37:8;53:13;	<b>30th (1)</b> 31:8	
34:24;39:14,15,18	31:11,17,21,22;32:11,	63:10,20,24;66:24	<b>31 (1)</b> 11:7	
updates (1) 43:19	21;33:1,8,11;34:14;	worked (3) 35:15,25;	35,000-foot (1) 44:24	
upon (1) 59:13	35:3,6;38:14,18,21;	37:6		
			<b>3rd (3)</b> 16:19;22:18;	
use (3) 39:3,4,24	41:9,11,18;42:13,13,	workers (7) 14:5;17:23;	56:15	
used (3) 24:15;30:15;	14,14,15;46:5;47:11;	19:1,6,8,9;42:15		
40:1	52:9;55:11;57:11,13;	working (3) 35:17,21;	5	
using (2) 32:4;58:14	58:9,12,24;65:19	64:6		
<b>USPS (3)</b> 23:12;27:11;	voter's (4) 28:15;34:5,	works (2) 32:17;41:13	<b>5:00 (1)</b> 26:20	
28:6	23;39:15	worried (1) 53:5	<b>50 (3)</b> 52:23,23;54:7	
<b>Usually (1)</b> 22:8	votes (10) 5:11;25:25;	write (1) 13:14	<b>500-foot (1)</b> 44:23	
	30:18;43:16;47:20;	writing (3) 31:19;32:6,9	<b>5th (2)</b> 26:18;27:1	
$\mathbf{V}$	48:4;49:3,16;57:14,23		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
•	voting (24) 17:4,11,22;	$\mathbf{Y}$	6	
variable (1) 36:4	18:3,18,19,22;19:4;	_	0	
variety (2) 8:25,25	20:3,7;21:2,21;27:14;	year (21) 16:19,22;	6 (2) 25.16.20.12	
			<b>6 (2)</b> 25:16;29:13	
various (1) 12:2	28:5,11,25;29:9,23;	17:2;18:7;22:25;32:3;	<b>600,000 (5)</b> 22:15,17;	
verification (3) 25:9;	32:13;34:23;39:9;	38:10,11;39:22;40:3;	44:7;53:7,15	
28:15;39:12	58:20,21;66:2	43:17,22;56:19;57:10;	<b>60s (1)</b> 16:23	
verified (2) 34:18,18		58:11;59:22;62:11,13;	_	
verify (4) 25:7,24;	$\mathbf{W}$	63:8;64:6,12	7	
30:12;34:15		years (8) 16:24;36:21;		
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# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT December 17, 2020

#### **Announcements:**

 Arizona's Electors met December 14, 2020 in Phoenix to cast their votes in the Electoral College.

#### **Voter Education:**

- The state canvass of the November 3, 2020 General Election was adopted on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Arizona's Presidential Electors met on Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> to cast their vote for President and Vice President. The Electoral College vote officially affirms Joe Biden as the winner.
- The Commission released an open letter thanking Arizona's election officials and voters for their efforts and participation in the November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election.
- The 2021 Voter Education Plan will be presented to the Commission in January 2021.
- Staff continued to participate in media interviews regarding the election, voter participation and campaign finance.
- Attended CE2 ( Civic Education and Community Engagement) meeting to go over application scoring and future goals on November 16,2020
- Continued rapport with Opportunities for Youth via Zoom conferences
- Attending the Arizona African-American Legislative Leadership Conference Committee Planning meeting on December 15, 2020
- Mesa Community College Civic Engagement team will resume meetings in February 2021

#### Administration:

 In order to reduce exposure to COVID-19, staff continues to practice social distancing, CDC recommendations, wear masks and electronic changes have been implemented to reduce incoming traffic.

#### Miscellaneous

- Outstanding legal matters
  - Legacy Foundation Action Fund
    - Awaiting decision
  - State Ex Rel Brnovich v. Ariz. Board of Regents.
    - The Supreme Court issued the opinion, available at this link: <a href="https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/0/OpinionFiles/Supreme/2020/C">https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/0/OpinionFiles/Supreme/2020/C</a>
       V190247PR.pdf
  - Election cases involving Arizona

#### Appointments

No additional information at this time.

#### Enforcement

- o MUR 20-01, Starzyk, closed
- o MUR 20-02, Parra, pending
- o MUR 20-03, Ariz. Educ Ass'n, pending
- o MUR 20-04, Sloan, this agenda
- o MUR 20-05, Starzyk 2, pending

#### **Regulatory Agenda**

Staff continues to review rules on an ongoing basis for purposes of clarity, concision and understandability.

- R2-20-101, definitions, for compliance with Arizona Advocacy Network v. State
- R2-20-109, independent expenditures, for compliance with Arizona Advocacy Network v. State.

Doug Ducey Governor

Thomas M. Collins Executive Director



Galen D. Paton Chair

Mark S. Kimble Damien R. Meyer Steve M. Titla Amy B. Chan Commissioners

## State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1616 W. Adams - Suite 110 - Phoenix, Arizona 85007 - Tel (602) 364-3477 - Fax (602) 364-3487 - www.azcleanelections.gov

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Commissioners

From: Thomas Collins, Executive Director and Mike Becker, Policy Director

Date: December 17, 2020

Subject: Proposed 2021 Calendar Year Budget

The Commission operates under system of caps that operate on a calendar year basis. We are asking the Commission to approve:

1. the 2021 expenditure cap (\$); \$22,974,427

- 2. the 2021 administration and enforcement expenditure cap (\$); \$2,297,443
- 3. the 2021 public education (paid media) expenditure cap (\$); \$2,297,443
- 4. the projection of 2021 candidate funding disbursements (\$0); \$0
- 5. the projection of no excess funds in the Clean Elections Fund in 2021.

#### **Expenditure Cap on Total Expenses**

In compliance with A.R.S. § 16-949, the Commission projects an expenditure cap for each calendar year for all expenses under the Act, including candidate funding. *Id.* That expenditure cap, in turn, may be exceeded during a four-year period so long as the difference is made up by a cap reduction in a subsequent year. *Id.* 

The Commission's projected expenditure cap for 2021 is \$22.974,427

#### **Specific Categories of Expenses**

The Commission categorizes operating expenses using four categories under the expenditure cap: Administration/Enforcement, Public Education, Voter Education and Candidate Funding. Our overhead costs are apportioned by a 50/50 split between Administration/Enforcement and Voter Education. Personal Services and Employee Related Expenses are apportioned by allocated staff-time between administration/enforcement and voter education responsibilities.

#### Administrative/Enforcement

The Clean Elections Act ("Act") permits the Commission to spend up to 10 percent of the calendar year expenditure cap for administrative and enforcement costs (A.R.S. §16-949 (B)). Administrative and Enforcement expenditures are projected at 60% of the expenditure cap (\$). \$1,390,700.

#### **Public Education**

The Commission may apply up to ten percent of the yearly expenditure cap for reasonable and necessary expense associated with public education, including participation and the purposes of the Act. A.R.S. §16-949 (C). Public education expenditures are projected at \$2,650,000.

#### Voter Education and Implementation of the Act

The Commission may make reasonable and necessary expenditures to implement the Act, including expenditures for voter education pursuant to A.R.S. 16-956(A). A.R.S. § 16-949(D) These expenditures are not subject to any cap. Id. Voter Education and Implementation Expenditures are projected at \$1,041,300.

**Candidate Funding** 

Section 16-954(c) provides that the Commission annually project the "amount of clean elections funding for which all candidates will have qualified. . . for the following calendar year."

There will be \$0 in candidate funding in calendar year 2021.

Other Projections

The Act provides that the Commission make two projections each year relating to the balance of and availability of funds in the Clean Elections Fund.

Section 16-954(B) provides that the Commission shall project the amount of money that will be collected in the fund over the next four years and the availability of those funds. The statute instructs the Commission to compare that projection to projected expenditures "under the assumption that expected expenses will be at the expenditure limit in § 16-949, subsection A" to determine whether there are "excess monies" in the fund.

This year, staff recommends that the Commission determine that there are no excess monies in the fund based on the chart below.

Calendar Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Projected Revenue	\$6,506,000	\$6,813,000	\$6,506,000	\$6,713,000
Projected Expenses (Assuming at expenditure limit)	\$22,974,427	\$22,974,427	\$22,974,427	\$22,974,427
Difference	\$(16,468,427)	\$(16,161,427)	\$(16,468,427)	\$(16,261,427)

Section 16-954(C) also provides that the Commission shall annually "announce whether the amount that the [C]ommission plans to spend the following year pursuant to § 16-949[A] . . . exceeds the projected amount of clean elections funding." The statute continues by stating that if the Commission "determines that the fund contains insufficient monies or the spending cap would be exceeded were all candidates' accounts fully funded," then the commission may take steps to adjust the funding available to candidates.

Staff believes that the fund contains sufficient monies to fully fund participating candidates in 2022 without exceeding the expenditure cap, as adjusted for carryover funds as described above. Therefore, staff does not recommend that the Commission take steps to adjust candidate funding.

# Citizens Clean Elections Commission 2020 Admin Expenditure Projections

	2020 Actuals	(as of Dec 1)	2021 Projections
Expenses			
Personal Services	\$	275,847	\$ 490,000
ERE		102,162	180,000
Professional & Outside Services			
Attorney General Legal Services		61,214	65,000
External Legal Services		109,013	130,000
Other Professional Outside Services		28,286	175,000
Total Professional & Outside Services		198,513	370,000
Travel-In State		762	8,000
Travel Out-of-State		0	1,500
Other Operating Expenditures			,,000
Risk Management Charges		1,050	2,000
Other External Data Processing		26,099	2,000 200,000
External Telecomm Charges		2,357	6,000
Other External Telecom Service		2,557	6,500
AFIS Usage and Development		1,005	1,100
Rent Charges to State Agency		37,100	
Rental of Other Machinery & Equip		37,100	38,000 500
Miscellaneous Rent		98	
Internal Acct/Budg/Financial Services		4,250	1,000
Repair & Maintenance - Other Equip		1,812	5,000
Other Repair & Maintenance		158	3,500
Software Support and Maintenance		150	2,000
Office Supplies		563	1,500
Other Opperating Supplies		102	2,500 200
Conference, Education & Training Rec		102	
Advertising	j.	883	3,500
External Printing		003	2,500
Postage & Delivery		687	3,500
Awards		007	2,500 300
Dues		595	600
Books Subscriptions & Publications		5,570	10,000
Other Miscellaneous Operating		3,370	500
Total Other Operating Expenditures	-	92 220	
		82,329	293,200
Aid to Individua/Organization		7,197	13,000
Capital Equipment		-	<u>-</u>
Non-Capital Equipment		2,605	25,000
Transfers (other state agencies)		-	10,000
Total Expenses	\$	669,415	1,390,700

### Citizens Clean Elections Commission 2020 Voter Public Education Expenditure Projections

xpenses	2020 Actuals	20	21 Projections
Personal Services			
ERE	\$ 254,850	\$	490,000
	88,456		180,000
Professional & Outside Services			
Public Ed- Paid Media	1,169,618		2,000,000
VE - Reister - 16949CY19 (2019 payments)	924,318		-
Attorney General Legal Services	61,214		65,000
Other Professional Outside Services	295,761		200,000
Total Professional & Outside Services	2,450,911		2,265,000
Travel-In State	262		7,500
Travel Out-of-State	-		5,000
Other Operating Expenditures			
Risk Management Charges	1,050		1,500
Other External Data Processing	72,326		200,000
AFIS Usage and Development	1,005		1,100
External Telecom Charges	7,056		8,000
Other External Telecom Service	-		6,500
Rent Charges to State Agency	37,100		38,000
Rental of Info Tech Equipment	-		900
Rental of Other Machinery and Equipment	367		2,000
Miscellaneous Rent	-		10,000
Internal Acct/Budg/Financial Services	4,250		4,500
Repair & Maintenance - Info Tech PCLAN	-		500
Repair & Maintenance - Buildings	_		500
Repair & Maintenance - Other Equip	1,812		3,500
Other Repair & Maintenance	-		2,000
Software Support and Maintenance	-		1,500
Uniforms	<u>-</u>		500
Office Supplies	394		500
Computer Supplies	-		300
Other Operating Supplies	725		1,500
Conference Education & Training Reg.	839		5,000
Advertising	_		4,000
Employee Tuition and Training	1,966		2,500
External Printing	957,212		5,000
Postage & Delivery	464,298		5,000
Awards	-		
Entertainment & Promo Items	21,636		11,000
Other Miscellaneous Operating	-		5,000
Dues	-		500
Books, Subscriptions & Publications	2,832		2,500
Total Other Operating Expendtiures	1,574,868		323,800
Capital Equipment			
Non-Capital Equipment	5,807		25,000
Transfers (other state agencies)	•		10,000
otal Expenses	\$ 2,382,891		3,306,300



#### Citizens Clean Elections Commission Revenue Projections - 4 years

	2020 Actuals	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenues Court Assessments Commission Assessments	\$ 5,923,918 10,782	\$ 6,500,000 3,000	\$ 6,500,000 5,000	\$ 6,500,000 3,000	\$ 6,500,000 5,000
\$5 Tax Donations \$5 Candidate Qualifying Contributions	-		300,000	-	200,000
Miscellaneous  Total Revenues	\$ 26,564 <b>5,961,264</b>	\$ 3,000 <b>6,506,000</b>	\$ 8,000 <b>6,813,000</b>	\$ 3,000 <b>6,506,000</b>	\$ 8,000 <b>6,713,000</b>

### Citizens Clean Elections Commission 2021 Expenditure Caps A.R.S. §16-949

Expenditure Cap	Amount
Total Expenditure Cap	\$22,974,427
Public Ed Paid Media	\$2,297,443
Admin & Enforcement	\$2,297,443

2020 Tax Filers	Spending Limit Coefficient
3,282,061	\$7

# Citizens Clean Elections Commission Expenditure Cap Spending and Fund Balance Projection

	1	eginning Fund					Ending Fund
Calendar Year	Balance		Revenues	Expenditure Cap		Balance	
2017	\$	23,576,898	\$	7,459,556	\$	20,321,063	\$ 10,715,391
2018	\$	10,715,391	\$	6,028,168	\$	20,668,270	\$ (3,924,711)
2019	\$	(3,924,711)	\$	5,961,264	\$	20,932,604	\$ (18,896,051)
2020	\$	(18,896,051)	\$	5,795,967		\$21,704,634	\$ (34,804,718)
2021	\$	(34,804,718)		\$7,006,000		\$22,974,427	\$ (50,773,145)

# Citizens Clean Elections Commission Expenditure Cap/Excess Funds Projections - 4 years

	Beginning Fund	Projected	Projected	Ending Fund
Calendar Year	Balance	Revenues	Expenditure Cap	Balance
2021	\$28,447,293	\$6,506,000	\$22,974,427	\$11,978,866
2022	\$11,978,866	\$6,813,000	\$22,974,427	(\$4,182,561)
2023	(\$4,182,561)	\$6,506,000	\$22,974,427	(\$20,650,988)
2024	(\$20,650,988)	\$6,713,000	\$22,974,427	(\$36,912,415)

# Citizens Clean Elections Commission Anticipated Fund Balance Projections - 4 Years

Calendar Year	Beginning Fund Balance	Projected Revenues	Projected Expenditures	Ending Fund Balance
2021	\$28,447,293	\$6,506,000	\$4,597,000	\$30,356,293
2022	\$30,356,293	\$6,813,000	\$18,000,000	\$19,169,293
2023	\$19,169,293	\$6,506,000	\$5,000,000	\$20,675,293
2024	\$20,675,293	\$6,713,000	\$12,000,000	\$15,388,293

# Citizens Clean Elections Commission 2021 Candidate Funding Projection

Calendar Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Projection
Candidate Funding	\$0	\$8,973,613	0	2.883.648	\$0

# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures** 

Bill Mundell Participating Candidate for Corporation Commissioner Primary Election 2020



# Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Chairman and Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Phoenix, Arizona

We (the Contractor) have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were specified and agreed to by the State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (the Commission), solely to assist the Commission in evaluating whether Bill Mundell's (the Candidate)'s Campaign finance reports between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020 (the reporting period) were prepared in compliance with Title 16, Articles 1 and 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Campaign Contributions and Expenses, and the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and whether the reports complied with the rules of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Candidate's management is responsible for the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The summary of procedures and associated findings are presented on the subsequent pages.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period of Bill Mundell. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the parties listed in the first paragraph, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

December 7, 2020

Fester & Chapman, PLLC

# **Summary of Procedures and Findings**

- 1. Preliminary Procedures
  - a) Commission Staff will obtain a copy of the candidate's campaign finance report for the reporting period and provide the records to the Contractor.

# **Finding**

We obtained the Campaign finance reports from the Arizona Secretary of State's Website for the reporting period between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020.

- b) Perform a desk review of the receipts reported in the candidate's campaign finance report as follows:
  - (i) Determine whether the candidate accepted contributions only from individuals.

# **Finding**

The contributions received during the reporting period appeared to be only from individuals.

(ii) Determine whether any contributions received from individuals exceed the early contribution limit.

# **Finding**

Contributions received from individuals during the reporting period did not exceed the \$170 early contribution limit.

(iii) Check compliance with the maximum early contribution limits.

#### **Finding**

Early contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$29,004 limit for a corporation commission candidate.

(iv) Check compliance with the maximum personal contribution limits.

# **Finding**

Personal contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$1,520 limit for a corporation commission candidate

c). Perform a desk review of the disbursements reported in the candidate's campaign finance report to identify any unusual items requiring follow-up during fieldwork.

#### **Finding**

We noted no unusual disbursements during our review.

d). Contact the candidate or the campaign treasurer, as appropriate, to schedule a date to perform fieldwork. Discuss the nature of the documentation, which will be needed to perform the engagement and ascertain the location of the necessary documentation.

# **Finding**

We contacted the Candidate to discuss the agreed-upon procedures, the timing of our procedures, and the documentation needed.

#### 2. Fieldwork Procedures

a) Commission staff will contact the candidate to request the records for agreedupon procedures attest engagement. Candidates receiving audits after the Primary Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 3rd Quarter Report. Candidates receiving audits after the General Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 4th Quarter Report.

#### **Finding**

Commission staff sent an initial notice to the Candidate and informed the Candidate that we would be contacting them. We then communicated to the Candidate in a written request, the purpose of the request, agreed-upon procedures to be performed, documentation needed, and potential future requirements of the Candidate.

b) Commission staff will provide the records to the Contractor upon receipt. The contractor shall contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the purpose of the engagement, the general procedures to be performed and potential future requirements of the candidate, such as possible repayments to the Fund.

#### Finding

See comment in a) above.

c) The Contractor shall contact or conduct an interview with the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the campaign committee.

#### **Finding**

The Candidate provided a description of bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the Campaign Committee.

(i) Review the names of the candidate's family members. Family members include parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate's spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.

#### **Finding**

We obtained and reviewed the names of the Candidate's family members.

- (ii) Review bank statements for each of the months in the reporting period and perform the following:
  - Select a sample of deposits and withdrawals from the bank statements and determine that the transaction is properly reflected in the candidate's records and campaign finance report.

We selected five deposits and five withdrawals from the bank statements for the reporting period and determined that they appeared to be properly recorded in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports.

 Perform a proof of receipts and disbursements for the reporting period.

# **Finding**

Proof of receipts and disbursements was performed for the reporting period and no exceptions were noted.

d) Judgmentally select a sample of early contributions reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and agree to supporting documentation, which reflects the name of the contributor (for all contributions) and for individuals who contributed greater than \$50, which reflects the contributor's address, occupation and employer.

# **Finding**

We reviewed the supporting documentation for five early contributions reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance report, and determined the name of the contributors for the contributions was included on the support. For individuals who contributed over \$50, we determined that the contributor's address, occupation, and employer were also included on the support.

(i) For other types of cash receipts reported on the candidate's campaign finance report, review supporting documentation and review for compliance with regulatory rules and laws and agree the receipt to inclusion in the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

No other types of cash receipts were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

(ii) For in-kind contributions, review the supporting documentation and determine the methodology utilized to value the contribution and assess the reasonableness.

#### **Finding**

No in-kind contributions were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

- e) Judgmentally select a sample of cash expenditures reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and perform the following:
  - (i) Review supporting invoice or other documentation and agree amount to the amount reported in the candidate's finance report.

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to supporting invoices or other documentation to the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

(ii) Determine that the name, address and nature of goods or services provided agree to the information reported in the candidate's campaign finance report.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed the name, address, and nature of goods or services provided in the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

 Agree the amount of the expenditure to the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to the Campaign account bank statements without exception.

(iii) Determine whether the expenditure was made for a direct campaign purpose. Direct campaign purpose includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of the candidate.

#### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and determined that all appeared to have been made for direct campaign purposes.

• If the expenditure is a joint expenditure made in conjunction with other candidates, determine that the amount paid represents the candidate's proportionate share of the total cost.

#### Finding

None of the expenditures we tested appeared to be for joint expenditures.

f) Determine whether any petty cash funds have been established and, if so, determine how expenditures from these funds have been reflected in the accounting records. Determine whether aggregate petty cash funds exceed the limit of \$1,520.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

(i) If applicable, judgmentally select a sample of expenditures made from the candidate's petty cash fund(s) and obtain supporting documentation for the expenditure. Determine whether the expenditure was for a direct campaign expense and whether the expenditure was in excess of the \$170 limit on petty cash expenditures.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

g) Contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the preliminary engagement findings and recommendations that the Contractor anticipates presenting to the CCEC. During this conference, the Contractor will advise the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) of their right to respond to the preliminary findings and the projected timetable for the issuance of the final issuance of the report.

# **Finding**

We discussed our findings with the Candidate and the Candidate did not provide responses to our findings.

# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures** 

Leezah Sun Participating Candidate for State Representative - District 19 Primary Election 2020



# Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Chairman and Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Phoenix, Arizona

We (the Contractor) have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were specified and agreed to by the State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (the Commission), solely to assist the Commission in evaluating whether Leezah Sun's (the Candidate)'s Campaign finance reports between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020 (the reporting period) were prepared in compliance with Title 16, Articles 1 and 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Campaign Contributions and Expenses, and the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and whether the reports complied with the rules of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Candidate's management is responsible for the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The summary of procedures and associated findings are presented on the subsequent pages.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period of Leezah Sun. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the parties listed in the first paragraph, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Fester & Chapman, PLLC

December 7, 2020

# **Summary of Procedures and Findings**

# 1. Preliminary Procedures

a) Commission Staff will obtain a copy of the candidate's campaign finance report for the reporting period and provide the records to the Contractor.

# **Finding**

We obtained the Campaign finance reports from the Arizona Secretary of State's Website for the reporting period between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020.

- b) Perform a desk review of the receipts reported in the candidate's campaign finance report as follows:
  - (i) Determine whether the candidate accepted contributions only from individuals.

# **Finding**

The contributions received during the reporting period appeared to be only from individuals.

(ii) Determine whether any contributions received from individuals exceed the early contribution limit.

# **Finding**

Contributions received from individuals during the reporting period did not exceed the \$170 early contribution limit.

(iii) Check compliance with the maximum early contribution limits.

#### **Finding**

Early contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$4,530 limit for a legislative candidate.

(iv) Check compliance with the maximum personal contribution limits.

# **Finding**

Personal contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$770 limit for a legislative candidate.

c). Perform a desk review of the disbursements reported in the candidate's campaign finance report to identify any unusual items requiring follow-up during fieldwork.

#### **Finding**

We noted no unusual disbursements during our review.

d). Contact the candidate or the campaign treasurer, as appropriate, to schedule a date to perform fieldwork. Discuss the nature of the documentation, which will be needed to perform the engagement and ascertain the location of the necessary documentation.

# **Finding**

We contacted the Candidate to discuss the agreed-upon procedures, the timing of our procedures, and the documentation needed.

#### 2. Fieldwork Procedures

a) Commission staff will contact the candidate to request the records for agreedupon procedures attest engagement. Candidates receiving audits after the Primary Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 3rd Quarter Report. Candidates receiving audits after the General Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 4th Quarter Report.

#### **Finding**

Commission staff sent an initial notice to the Candidate and informed the Candidate that we would be contacting them. We then communicated to the Candidate in a written request, the purpose of the request, agreed-upon procedures to be performed, documentation needed, and potential future requirements of the Candidate.

b) Commission staff will provide the records to the Contractor upon receipt. The contractor shall contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the purpose of the engagement, the general procedures to be performed and potential future requirements of the candidate, such as possible repayments to the Fund.

#### Finding

See comment in a) above.

c) The Contractor shall contact or conduct an interview with the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the campaign committee.

#### **Finding**

The Candidate provided a description of bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the Campaign Committee.

(i) Review the names of the candidate's family members. Family members include parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate's spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.

#### **Finding**

We obtained and reviewed the names of the Candidate's family members.

- (ii) Review bank statements for each of the months in the reporting period and perform the following:
  - Select a sample of deposits and withdrawals from the bank statements and determine that the transaction is properly reflected in the candidate's records and campaign finance report.

We selected five deposits and five withdrawals from the bank statements for the reporting period and determined that they appeared to be properly recorded in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports.

 Perform a proof of receipts and disbursements for the reporting period.

# **Finding**

Proof of receipts and disbursements was performed for the reporting period and no exceptions were noted.

d) Judgmentally select a sample of early contributions reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and agree to supporting documentation, which reflects the name of the contributor (for all contributions) and for individuals who contributed greater than \$50, which reflects the contributor's address, occupation and employer.

# **Finding**

We reviewed the supporting documentation for five early contributions reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance report, and determined the name of the contributors for the contributions was included on the support. For individuals who contributed over \$50, we determined that the contributor's address, occupation, and employer were also included on the support.

(i) For other types of cash receipts reported on the candidate's campaign finance report, review supporting documentation and review for compliance with regulatory rules and laws and agree the receipt to inclusion in the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

No other types of cash receipts were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

(ii) For in-kind contributions, review the supporting documentation and determine the methodology utilized to value the contribution and assess the reasonableness.

#### **Finding**

No in-kind contributions were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

- e) Judgmentally select a sample of cash expenditures reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and perform the following:
  - (i) Review supporting invoice or other documentation and agree amount to the amount reported in the candidate's finance report.

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to supporting invoices or other documentation to the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

(ii) Determine that the name, address and nature of goods or services provided agree to the information reported in the candidate's campaign finance report.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed the name, address, and nature of goods or services provided in the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

 Agree the amount of the expenditure to the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to the Campaign account bank statements without exception.

(iii) Determine whether the expenditure was made for a direct campaign purpose. Direct campaign purpose includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of the candidate.

#### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and determined that all appeared to have been made for direct campaign purposes.

• If the expenditure is a joint expenditure made in conjunction with other candidates, determine that the amount paid represents the candidate's proportionate share of the total cost.

#### Finding

None of the expenditures we tested appeared to be for joint expenditures.

f) Determine whether any petty cash funds have been established and, if so, determine how expenditures from these funds have been reflected in the accounting records. Determine whether aggregate petty cash funds exceed the limit of \$1,520.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

(i) If applicable, judgmentally select a sample of expenditures made from the candidate's petty cash fund(s) and obtain supporting documentation for the expenditure. Determine whether the expenditure was for a direct campaign expense and whether the expenditure was in excess of the \$170 limit on petty cash expenditures.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

g) Contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the preliminary engagement findings and recommendations that the Contractor anticipates presenting to the CCEC. During this conference, the Contractor will advise the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) of their right to respond to the preliminary findings and the projected timetable for the issuance of the final issuance of the report.

# **Finding**

We discussed our findings with the Candidate and the Candidate did not provide responses to our findings.

# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures** 

Linda Patterson
Participating Candidate for
State Senator - District 11
Primary Election 2020



# Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Chairman and Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Phoenix, Arizona

We (the Contractor) have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were specified and agreed to by the State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (the Commission), solely to assist the Commission in evaluating whether Linda Patterson's (the Candidate)'s Campaign finance reports between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020 (the reporting period) were prepared in compliance with Title 16, Articles 1 and 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Campaign Contributions and Expenses, and the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and whether the reports complied with the rules of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Candidate's management is responsible for the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The summary of procedures and associated findings are presented on the subsequent pages.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period of Linda Patterson. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the parties listed in the first paragraph, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Fester & Chapman, PLLC

December 7, 2020

# **Summary of Procedures and Findings**

# 1. Preliminary Procedures

a) Commission Staff will obtain a copy of the candidate's campaign finance report for the reporting period and provide the records to the Contractor.

# **Finding**

We obtained the Campaign finance reports from the Arizona Secretary of State's Website for the reporting period between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020.

- b) Perform a desk review of the receipts reported in the candidate's campaign finance report as follows:
  - (i) Determine whether the candidate accepted contributions only from individuals.

# **Finding**

The contributions received during the reporting period appeared to be only from individuals.

(ii) Determine whether any contributions received from individuals exceed the early contribution limit.

# **Finding**

Contributions received from individuals during the reporting period did not exceed the \$170 early contribution limit.

(iii) Check compliance with the maximum early contribution limits.

#### **Finding**

Early contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$4,530 limit for a legislative candidate.

(iv) Check compliance with the maximum personal contribution limits.

# **Finding**

Personal contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$770 limit for a legislative candidate.

c). Perform a desk review of the disbursements reported in the candidate's campaign finance report to identify any unusual items requiring follow-up during fieldwork.

#### **Finding**

We noted no unusual disbursements during our review.

d). Contact the candidate or the campaign treasurer, as appropriate, to schedule a date to perform fieldwork. Discuss the nature of the documentation, which will be needed to perform the engagement and ascertain the location of the necessary documentation.

# **Finding**

We contacted the Candidate to discuss the agreed-upon procedures, the timing of our procedures, and the documentation needed.

#### 2. Fieldwork Procedures

a) Commission staff will contact the candidate to request the records for agreedupon procedures attest engagement. Candidates receiving audits after the Primary Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 3rd Quarter Report. Candidates receiving audits after the General Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 4th Quarter Report.

#### **Finding**

Commission staff sent an initial notice to the Candidate and informed the Candidate that we would be contacting them. We then communicated to the Candidate in a written request, the purpose of the request, agreed-upon procedures to be performed, documentation needed, and potential future requirements of the Candidate.

b) Commission staff will provide the records to the Contractor upon receipt. The contractor shall contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the purpose of the engagement, the general procedures to be performed and potential future requirements of the candidate, such as possible repayments to the Fund.

#### Finding

See comment in a) above.

c) The Contractor shall contact or conduct an interview with the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the campaign committee.

#### **Finding**

The Candidate provided a description of bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the Campaign Committee.

(i) Review the names of the candidate's family members. Family members include parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate's spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.

#### **Finding**

We obtained and reviewed the names of the Candidate's family members.

- (ii) Review bank statements for each of the months in the reporting period and perform the following:
  - Select a sample of deposits and withdrawals from the bank statements and determine that the transaction is properly reflected in the candidate's records and campaign finance report.

We selected five deposits and five withdrawals from the bank statements for the reporting period and determined that they appeared to be properly recorded in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports.

 Perform a proof of receipts and disbursements for the reporting period.

# **Finding**

Proof of receipts and disbursements was performed for the reporting period and no exceptions were noted.

d) Judgmentally select a sample of early contributions reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and agree to supporting documentation, which reflects the name of the contributor (for all contributions) and for individuals who contributed greater than \$50, which reflects the contributor's address, occupation and employer.

# **Finding**

We reviewed the supporting documentation for five early contributions reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance report, and determined the name of the contributors for the contributions was included on the support. For individuals who contributed over \$50, we determined that the contributor's address, occupation, and employer were also included on the support.

(i) For other types of cash receipts reported on the candidate's campaign finance report, review supporting documentation and review for compliance with regulatory rules and laws and agree the receipt to inclusion in the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

No other types of cash receipts were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

(ii) For in-kind contributions, review the supporting documentation and determine the methodology utilized to value the contribution and assess the reasonableness.

#### **Finding**

No in-kind contributions were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

- e) Judgmentally select a sample of cash expenditures reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and perform the following:
  - (i) Review supporting invoice or other documentation and agree amount to the amount reported in the candidate's finance report.

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to supporting invoices or other documentation to the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

(ii) Determine that the name, address and nature of goods or services provided agree to the information reported in the candidate's campaign finance report.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed the name, address, and nature of goods or services provided in the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

 Agree the amount of the expenditure to the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to the Campaign account bank statements without exception.

(iii) Determine whether the expenditure was made for a direct campaign purpose. Direct campaign purpose includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of the candidate.

#### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and determined that all appeared to have been made for direct campaign purposes.

• If the expenditure is a joint expenditure made in conjunction with other candidates, determine that the amount paid represents the candidate's proportionate share of the total cost.

#### Finding

None of the expenditures we tested appeared to be for joint expenditures.

f) Determine whether any petty cash funds have been established and, if so, determine how expenditures from these funds have been reflected in the accounting records. Determine whether aggregate petty cash funds exceed the limit of \$1,520.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

(i) If applicable, judgmentally select a sample of expenditures made from the candidate's petty cash fund(s) and obtain supporting documentation for the expenditure. Determine whether the expenditure was for a direct campaign expense and whether the expenditure was in excess of the \$170 limit on petty cash expenditures.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

g) Contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the preliminary engagement findings and recommendations that the Contractor anticipates presenting to the CCEC. During this conference, the Contractor will advise the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) of their right to respond to the preliminary findings and the projected timetable for the issuance of the final issuance of the report.

# **Finding**

We discussed our findings with the Candidate and the Candidate did not provide responses to our findings.

# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures** 

Luis Parra
Participating Candidate for
State Representative - District 2
Primary Election 2020

# Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Chairman and Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Phoenix, Arizona

We (the Contractor) have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were specified and agreed to by the State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (the Commission), solely to assist the Commission in evaluating whether Luis Parra's (the Candidate)'s Campaign finance reports between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020 (the reporting period) were prepared in compliance with Title 16, Articles 1 and 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Campaign Contributions and Expenses, and the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and whether the reports complied with the rules of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Candidate's management is responsible for the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The summary of procedures and associated findings are presented on the subsequent pages.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period of Luis Parra. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the parties listed in the first paragraph, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

December 9, 2020

Fester & Chapman, PLLC

# **Summary of Procedures and Findings**

# 1. Preliminary Procedures

a) Commission Staff will obtain a copy of the candidate's campaign finance report for the reporting period and provide the records to the Contractor.

# **Finding**

We obtained the Campaign finance reports from the Arizona Secretary of State's Website for the reporting period between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020.

- b) Perform a desk review of the receipts reported in the candidate's campaign finance report as follows:
  - (i) Determine whether the candidate accepted contributions only from individuals.

# **Finding**

The contributions received during the reporting period appeared to be only from individuals.

(ii) Determine whether any contributions received from individuals exceed the early contribution limit.

# **Finding**

Contributions received from individuals during the reporting period did not exceed the \$170 early contribution limit.

(iii) Check compliance with the maximum early contribution limits.

#### **Finding**

Early contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$4,530 limit for a legislative candidate.

(iv) Check compliance with the maximum personal contribution limits.

# **Finding**

Personal contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$770 limit for a legislative candidate.

c). Perform a desk review of the disbursements reported in the candidate's campaign finance report to identify any unusual items requiring follow-up during fieldwork.

#### **Finding**

We noted no unusual disbursements during our review.

d). Contact the candidate or the campaign treasurer, as appropriate, to schedule a date to perform fieldwork. Discuss the nature of the documentation, which will be needed to perform the engagement and ascertain the location of the necessary documentation.

# **Finding**

We contacted the Candidate to discuss the agreed-upon procedures, the timing of our procedures, and the documentation needed.

#### 2. Fieldwork Procedures

a) Commission staff will contact the candidate to request the records for agreedupon procedures attest engagement. Candidates receiving audits after the Primary Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 3rd Quarter Report. Candidates receiving audits after the General Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 4th Quarter Report.

#### **Finding**

Commission staff sent an initial notice to the Candidate and informed the Candidate that we would be contacting them. We then communicated to the Candidate in a written request, the purpose of the request, agreed-upon procedures to be performed, documentation needed, and potential future requirements of the Candidate.

b) Commission staff will provide the records to the Contractor upon receipt. The contractor shall contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the purpose of the engagement, the general procedures to be performed and potential future requirements of the candidate, such as possible repayments to the Fund.

#### Finding

See comment in a) above.

c) The Contractor shall contact or conduct an interview with the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the campaign committee.

#### **Finding**

The Candidate provided a description of bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the Campaign Committee.

(i) Review the names of the candidate's family members. Family members include parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate's spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.

#### **Finding**

We obtained and reviewed the names of the Candidate's family members.

- (ii) Review bank statements for each of the months in the reporting period and perform the following:
  - Select a sample of deposits and withdrawals from the bank statements and determine that the transaction is properly reflected in the candidate's records and campaign finance report.

We selected five deposits and five withdrawals from the bank statements for the reporting period and determined that they appeared to be properly recorded in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports.

 Perform a proof of receipts and disbursements for the reporting period.

# **Finding**

Proof of receipts and disbursements was performed for the reporting period and no exceptions were noted.

d) Judgmentally select a sample of early contributions reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and agree to supporting documentation, which reflects the name of the contributor (for all contributions) and for individuals who contributed greater than \$50, which reflects the contributor's address, occupation and employer.

# **Finding**

We reviewed the supporting documentation for five early contributions reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance report, and determined the name of the contributors for the contributions was included on the support. For individuals who contributed over \$50, we determined that the contributor's address, occupation, and employer were also included on the support.

(i) For other types of cash receipts reported on the candidate's campaign finance report, review supporting documentation and review for compliance with regulatory rules and laws and agree the receipt to inclusion in the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

No other types of cash receipts were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

(ii) For in-kind contributions, review the supporting documentation and determine the methodology utilized to value the contribution and assess the reasonableness.

#### **Finding**

No in-kind contributions were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

- e) Judgmentally select a sample of cash expenditures reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and perform the following:
  - (i) Review supporting invoice or other documentation and agree amount to the amount reported in the candidate's finance report.

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to supporting invoices or other documentation to the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

(ii) Determine that the name, address and nature of goods or services provided agree to the information reported in the candidate's campaign finance report.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed the name, address, and nature of goods or services provided in the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

 Agree the amount of the expenditure to the campaign account bank statement.

# **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to the Campaign account bank statements without exception.

(iii) Determine whether the expenditure was made for a direct campaign purpose. Direct campaign purpose includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of the candidate.

#### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and determined that all appeared to have been made for direct campaign purposes.

• If the expenditure is a joint expenditure made in conjunction with other candidates, determine that the amount paid represents the candidate's proportionate share of the total cost.

#### Finding

None of the expenditures we tested appeared to be for joint expenditures.

f) Determine whether any petty cash funds have been established and, if so, determine how expenditures from these funds have been reflected in the accounting records. Determine whether aggregate petty cash funds exceed the limit of \$1,520.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

(i) If applicable, judgmentally select a sample of expenditures made from the candidate's petty cash fund(s) and obtain supporting documentation for the expenditure. Determine whether the expenditure was for a direct campaign expense and whether the expenditure was in excess of the \$170 limit on petty cash expenditures.

# **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

g) Contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the preliminary engagement findings and recommendations that the Contractor anticipates presenting to the CCEC. During this conference, the Contractor will advise the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) of their right to respond to the preliminary findings and the projected timetable for the issuance of the final issuance of the report.

# **Finding**

We discussed our findings with the Candidate and the Candidate did not provide responses to our findings.

# CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures** 

Shea Stanfield Participating Candidate for Corporation Commissioner Primary Election 2020



# Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Chairman and Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Phoenix, Arizona

We (the Contractor) have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were specified and agreed to by the State of Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission (the Commission), solely to assist the Commission in evaluating whether Shea Stanfield's (the Candidate)'s Campaign finance reports between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020 (the reporting period) were prepared in compliance with Title 16, Articles 1 and 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Campaign Contributions and Expenses, and the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and whether the reports complied with the rules of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Candidate's management is responsible for the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The summary of procedures and associated findings are presented on the subsequent pages.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Campaign finance reports during the reporting period of Shea Stanfield. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the parties listed in the first paragraph, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Fester & Chapman, PLLC

December 3, 2020

# **Summary of Procedures and Findings**

# 1. Preliminary Procedures

a) Commission Staff will obtain a copy of the candidate's campaign finance report for the reporting period and provide the records to the Contractor.

# **Finding**

We obtained the Campaign finance reports from the Arizona Secretary of State's Website for the reporting period between the 2020 Q1 Report, starting January 1, 2020, through the 2020 Primary Recap Report, which ended August 4, 2020.

- b) Perform a desk review of the receipts reported in the candidate's campaign finance report as follows:
  - (i) Determine whether the candidate accepted contributions only from individuals.

#### **Finding**

The contributions received during the reporting period appeared to be only from individuals.

(ii) Determine whether any contributions received from individuals exceed the early contribution limit.

# **Finding**

Contributions received from individuals during the reporting period did not exceed the \$170 early contribution limit.

(iii) Check compliance with the maximum early contribution limits.

#### **Finding**

Early contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$29,004 limit for a corporation commission candidate.

(iv) Check compliance with the maximum personal contribution limits.

# **Finding**

Personal contributions received during the reporting period did not exceed the \$1,520 limit for a corporation commission candidate

c). Perform a desk review of the disbursements reported in the candidate's campaign finance report to identify any unusual items requiring follow-up during fieldwork.

#### **Finding**

We noted no unusual disbursements during our review.

d). Contact the candidate or the campaign treasurer, as appropriate, to schedule a date to perform fieldwork. Discuss the nature of the documentation, which will be needed to perform the engagement and ascertain the location of the necessary documentation.

# **Finding**

We contacted the Candidate to discuss the agreed-upon procedures, the timing of our procedures, and the documentation needed.

#### 2. Fieldwork Procedures

a) Commission staff will contact the candidate to request the records for agreedupon procedures attest engagement. Candidates receiving audits after the Primary Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 3rd Quarter Report. Candidates receiving audits after the General Election shall provide records from the election cycle through the 4th Quarter Report.

#### **Finding**

Commission staff sent an initial notice to the Candidate and informed the Candidate that we would be contacting them. We then communicated to the Candidate in a written request, the purpose of the request, agreed-upon procedures to be performed, documentation needed, and potential future requirements of the Candidate.

b) Commission staff will provide the records to the Contractor upon receipt. The contractor shall contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the purpose of the engagement, the general procedures to be performed and potential future requirements of the candidate, such as possible repayments to the Fund.

#### Finding

See comment in a) above.

c) The Contractor shall contact or conduct an interview with the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the campaign committee.

#### **Finding**

The Candidate provided a description of bookkeeping policies and procedures utilized by the Campaign Committee.

(i) Review the names of the candidate's family members. Family members include parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle, child or sibling of the candidate or the candidate's spouse, including the spouse of any of the listed family members regardless of whether the relation is established by marriage or adoption.

#### **Finding**

We obtained and reviewed the names of the Candidate's family members.

- (ii) Review bank statements for each of the months in the reporting period and perform the following:
  - Select a sample of deposits and withdrawals from the bank statements and determine that the transaction is properly reflected in the candidate's records and campaign finance report.

### **Finding**

We selected five deposits and five withdrawals from the bank statements for the reporting period and determined that they appeared to be properly recorded in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports.

 Perform a proof of receipts and disbursements for the reporting period.

### **Finding**

Proof of receipts and disbursements was performed for the reporting period and no exceptions were noted.

d) Judgmentally select a sample of early contributions reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and agree to supporting documentation, which reflects the name of the contributor (for all contributions) and for individuals who contributed greater than \$50, which reflects the contributor's address, occupation and employer.

### **Finding**

We reviewed the supporting documentation for five early contributions reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance report, and determined the name of the contributors for the contributions was included on the support. For individuals who contributed over \$50, we determined that the contributor's address, occupation, and employer were also included on the support.

(i) For other types of cash receipts reported on the candidate's campaign finance report, review supporting documentation and review for compliance with regulatory rules and laws and agree the receipt to inclusion in the campaign account bank statement.

### **Finding**

No other types of cash receipts were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

(ii) For in-kind contributions, review the supporting documentation and determine the methodology utilized to value the contribution and assess the reasonableness.

### **Finding**

No in-kind contributions were reported in the Candidate's Campaign finance reports during the reporting period.

- e) Judgmentally select a sample of cash expenditures reported in the candidate's campaign finance report and perform the following:
  - (i) Review supporting invoice or other documentation and agree amount to the amount reported in the candidate's finance report.

### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to supporting invoices or other documentation to the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

(ii) Determine that the name, address and nature of goods or services provided agree to the information reported in the candidate's campaign finance report.

### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed the name, address, and nature of goods or services provided in the Candidate's Campaign finance report.

 Agree the amount of the expenditure to the campaign account bank statement.

### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and agreed amounts to the Campaign account bank statements without exception.

(iii) Determine whether the expenditure was made for a direct campaign purpose. Direct campaign purpose includes, but is not limited to, materials, communications, transportation, supplies and expenses used toward the election of the candidate.

### **Finding**

We reviewed five expenditures and determined that all appeared to have been made for direct campaign purposes.

• If the expenditure is a joint expenditure made in conjunction with other candidates, determine that the amount paid represents the candidate's proportionate share of the total cost.

### Finding

None of the expenditures we tested appeared to be for joint expenditures.

f) Determine whether any petty cash funds have been established and, if so, determine how expenditures from these funds have been reflected in the accounting records. Determine whether aggregate petty cash funds exceed the limit of \$1,520.

### **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

(i) If applicable, judgmentally select a sample of expenditures made from the candidate's petty cash fund(s) and obtain supporting documentation for the expenditure. Determine whether the expenditure was for a direct campaign expense and whether the expenditure was in excess of the \$170 limit on petty cash expenditures.

### **Finding**

Based on inquiry of the Candidate, the Candidate did not establish a petty cash fund during the reporting period.

g) Contact the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) to discuss the preliminary engagement findings and recommendations that the Contractor anticipates presenting to the CCEC. During this conference, the Contractor will advise the candidate and/or his or her representative(s) of their right to respond to the preliminary findings and the projected timetable for the issuance of the final issuance of the report.

### **Finding**

We discussed our findings with the Candidate and the Candidate did not provide responses to our findings.

### STATE OF ARIZONA CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

MUR 20-04
Eric Sloan
STATEMENT OF REASONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission ("Commission"), the Executive Director hereby provides the following Statement of Reasons why there is reason to believe that a violation of the Citizens Clean Elections Act and Commission rules (collectively, the "Act") may have occurred. Based on this statement of reasons, the Executive Director requests authorization to conduct an investigation and additional authorization to begin a repayment inquiry.

### I. Background

On August 10, 2020, participating candidate Eric Sloan (Sloan or respondent), a candidate for corporation commission, notified Commission staff of a dispute between the Sloan campaign and a purported vendor of the Sloan Campaign, a Limited Liability Company called Power of 5s. *See* A.R.S. § 16-953(C)(providing procedures in the event of a vendor dispute.). In a letter dated October 23, 2020, Dr. Bob Branch (Branch or Complainant), the managing member of Power of 5s, filed a complaint with the Commission. See Exhibit A (Branch Complaint). It alleges:

- That Sloan failed to report expenditures to Power of 5s. *See* A.R.S. § 16-942(B). Complaint at 1-3.
- That the amount of the alleged expenditures caused Sloan to exceed the spending limits to which he agreed as a participating candidate. See A.R.S. § 16-941(A), -942(A), C, D. Complaint at 1-3
- That Power of 5s undertook work for Sloan. The complaint alleges that Sloan directed Power of 5s to secure nomination petition signatures and to hire staff for the primary election. Complaint at 1. Furthermore, the Complaint alleges that Power of 5s "advanced" \$23,000 to defend

Sloan's signatures from challenge and to provide for an effort to challenge the signatures of other candidates. *Id.* at 2.

Sloan's campaign provided a response on Nov. 5, disputing those allegations. *See* Sloan Response (Exhibit B). In the response, the Sloan campaign alleges that Power of 5s provided plans and invoices that the Campaign never authorized. Sloan argues that the campaign tendered payment for more than \$67,000, but Power of 5 has yet to cash the check. Sloan disputes that the campaign ever authorized an expenditure for legal services. The Sloan Committee argues that whatever the "value of services" provided by Power of 5s is can be determined in a pending arbitration. (The Contract between Sloan and Power of Fives included an arbitration clause. The arbitration remains in the scheduling stages). Ultimately, Sloan argues, at least \$20,000 is available for that expense. Response at 2.

### II. Legal Analysis

### Failure to Report

Branch claims that the expenditure to Power of 5s was not properly reported. The Contract was signed in August to be "effective" January 1 2020. *See* Complaint Exhibit 1.

Under the Commission's rules.

"A candidate may authorize an agent to purchase goods or services on behalf of such candidate, provided that: a. Expenditures shall be reported as of the date that the agent promises, agrees, contracts or otherwise incurs an obligation to pay for the goods or services; b. The candidate shall have sufficient funds in the candidate's campaign account to pay for the amount of such expenditure at the time it is made and all other outstanding obligations of the candidate's campaign committee; and c. Within seven calendar days of the date upon which the amount of the expenditure is

known, the candidate shall pay such amount from the candidate's campaign account to the agent who purchases the goods or services." AAC R2-20-110.1 The Act and rules do not provide for an agreement to be post-dated to avoid the expenditure. Accordingly, there is reason to believe that the Contract was made the date it was signed in August and thus there is reason to believe that the Contract expenditure amount should not have been reported later than the report closing December 31, 2019. However, even if the post-dating of the agreement could move the expenditure back, it remains the case that no reporting of the expenditure took place until the tendering of the 67,000. *See* Exhibit C (Sloan campaign finance report). Accordingly, there is reason to believe a violation may have occurred. Additionally, to the extent that the Power of 5s "advanced" legal fees to the Campaign for an attorney, there is reason to believe that subvendor reporting was required. A.R.S. § 16-948.

### **Exceeding the Amount of the Campaign Spending Limits**

Branch alleges that Sloan overspent the primary election spending limits by "at least \$23,056." He reaches this conclusion by adding Power of 5s claimed amount owed to the amount raised by the Campaign. Under A.R.S. § 16-941(A), Sloan was subject to several limitations, including on seed money. Under the Commission's rules, "[d]uring the primary election period, a participating candidate shall not make any expenditure greater than the difference between: 1. The sum of early contributions received plus public funds disbursed through the primary election period; less 2. All other expenditures made during and for the exploratory, qualifying and primary election periods." According to Sloan's campaign finance reports, he raised \$13,022.20 in early contributions, \$1,424.02 in personal/family contributions

<sup>1.</sup> The Contract purports to place limitations on Power of 5s status as an agent, but those limitations are not relevant to the question of whether there is reason to believe a violation may have occurred. See Complaint Exhibit 1.

and received an allocation of \$116,016 for a total of \$130,462.22 in spending capacity. Sloan's pre-primary report indicates he spent \$105,183.42, including the amount he tendered to Power of 5s, leaving \$25,278.80 in spending capacity in the primary. Branch alleges he is owed an additional \$48,285.06. Consequently, there is, reason to believe that there may be a violation of ARS § 16-941(A).

Additionally, when Sloan and Power of 5s executed the Contract, the value of the alleged expenditure included in the document exceeded the amount of money Sloan was permitted to raise in seed money all together, which was \$29,004. A.R.S. \$ 16-945(A)(2); see also AAC R2-20-104(D)(6)("Prior to qualifying for Clean Elections funding, a candidate shall not incur debt, or make an expenditure in excess of the amount of cash on hand. Upon approval for funding by the Secretary of State, a candidate may incur debt, or make expenditures, not to exceed the sum of the cash on hand and the applicable spending limit."). See also Ariz. Secretary of State, Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Act 2019-2020 Participating Candidate Expenditure & Contribution Limits

 $https://azsos.gov/sites/default/files/elections\_2019-$ 

2020\_Clean%20Elections\_Act\_Biennial\_

Adjustments.pdf. Similarly, the expenditure as alleged provides reason to believe Sloan may have been over the spending limit of the Primary Election set forth in A.R.S. § 16-941(A)(3).

Additionally, the Complaint characterizes the payment of legal fees as an "advance" – in other words a contribution in the form of a loan. However, Power of 5s is not a legal donor under these facts. Section 16-941 provides for a limited amount of donations from particular kinds of contributors and Power of 5s does not fit those categories. Thus, there is reason to believe that a violation of 16-941 may have occurred. Finally, the Complaint raises the question of whether the legal

expenditures claimed by Power of 5s were direct campaign expenditures consistent with the Act.

Sloan counters that he has, in fact, attempted to pay Power of 5s more than half of the Contract price, and withheld an amount roughly equal to the legal fees described in the Complaint pursuant to A.R.S. §16-956. Furthermore, Sloan claims that the additional amounts allegedly owed under the Contract are for goods and services that were not authorized by the Sloan campaign. In other words, regardless of the Contracts terms, Sloan disputes that his campaign authorized expenditures beyond the amount tendered to the Company. Additionally, Sloan argues that the contractual arbitration proceeding should determine whether any more money is owed to Power of 5s. Consequently, although there is reason to believe violations may have occurred, there are substantial issues of fact related to the expenditures requiring further investigation. Additionally, Because of this aspect of the dispute, the Executive Director requests authorization to begin a repayment inquiry as outlined in section III.

### III. Recommendation

Based on the Complaint, the Response, and the analysis above, the Executive Director recommends the commission determine reason to believe violations of the Clean Elections Act and Rules may have occurred. If the Commission determines by an affirmative vote of at least three of its members that it has reason to believe Sloan has violated a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction, the Commission shall notify Sloan of the Commission's finding setting forth: (i) the sections of the statute or rule alleged to have been violated; (ii) the alleged factual basis supporting the finding; and (iii) an order requiring compliance within fourteen (14) days. During that period, the Respondent may provide any explanation to the Commission, comply with the order, or enter into a public administrative settlement with the Commission.

A.R.S. § 16-957(A) & AAC R2-20-208(A). If the Commission finds reason to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred, the Commission shall conduct an investigation. AAC R2-20-209(A). The staff seeks authorization for the Executive Director or the Commission's attorneys to subpoena all of the Complainant and Respondent's records documenting disbursements, debts, or obligations to the present, and may authorize an audit, and require persons with information to sit for depositions or other sworn testimony. Furthermore, because the Complaint and Response taken together raise substantial questions regarding the use of funds, the Executive Director requests authorization to begin an inquiry regarding repayment of funds.

Upon expiration of the fourteen (14) days, if the Commission finds that the alleged violator remains out of compliance, the Commission shall make a public finding to that effect and issue an order assessing a civil penalty unless good cause of reduction is shown. A.R.S. § 16-957(B).

After fourteen (14) days and upon completion of the investigation, the Executive Director will recommend whether the Commission should find probable cause to believe that a violation of a statute or rule over which the Commission has jurisdiction has occurred. AAC R2-20-214(A). Upon a finding of probable cause that the alleged violator remains out of compliance, by an affirmative vote of at least three of its members, the Commission may issue of an order and assess civil penalties pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-957(B). AAC R2-20-217.

Dated this 14th day of December, 2020

By: s/Thomas M. Collins

Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director



### Complaint against Eric Sloan, Candidate for Corporation Commissioner, for Clean Election Violations. 10/23/2020

I am Dr. Bob Branch, Managing Member of The Power of Fives, LLC. After reading Clean Elections' Candidate, Eric Sloan's recent campaign finance report, we contend that Mr. Sloan is in violation of Clean Election Laws for over spending in the Primary Election, and is in violation of Campaign Finance Law for not fully disclosing the entire invoice that The Power of Fives, LLC billed to Mr. Sloan. Therefore, we, at The Power of Fives, LLC think that it is our civic duty to report these violations to Clean Elections.

In August of 2019, Mr. Sloan and The Power of Fives LLC entered into an agreement where The Power of Fives, for the sum of \$116, 016 for the Primary Elections would provide Mr. Sloan with a complete turnkey campaign; this agreement was later memorialized in a contract signed by Mr. Sloan and The Power of Fives LLC. A copy of the contract is attached (see Exhibit 1). Compensation under the contract was based on three phases of the campaign: Phase I - Prefunding, Phase II - Funded Primary, and Phase III - Funded General Election. Phase I and II ran through the August 4, 2020 primary election. Under the contract, compensation for Phase I was 40% of the amount equal to the Primary Fund Distribution and compensation for Phase II was 60% of the amount equal to the Primary Fund Distribution. Accordingly, completion of Phase I and Phase II entitled The Power of Fives LLC to 100% of the amount equal to the Primary Fund Distribution amount is \$116,016.00 under A.R.S. §§ 16-959(A) and 16-961(G)(3).

The Power of Fives LLC's expenditures for Sloan began in September of 2019, when Mr. Sloan requested that The Power of Fives LLC start buying nomination petition signatures for his campaign for Corporation Commissioner, and requested that The Power of Fives LLC hire campaign support staff for his Primary campaign. Additionally, The Power of Fives LLC started holding joint campaign functions for Mr. Sloan's campaign.

In November, Mr. Sloan asked The Power of Fives LLC to hire him. He asked for a job, but that would be problematic since he was one of The Power of Fives LLC's candidates. Mr. Sloan then asked that we hire his wife's company; "Sloan Lyons Public Affairs LLC" and that we pay Sloan Lyons Public Affairs LLC \$4,000/month; The Power of Fives LLC agreed and hired Sloan Lyons Public Affairs LLC (A copy of the contract is attached (see Exhibit II).

Having successfully secured the petition signatures for Mr. Sloan, in April, Mr. Sloan filed his nomination paperwork. Mr. Sloan informed The Power of Fives LLC that he was going to challenge the signatures of Boyd Dunn, David Farnsworth, and Kim Owens. Mr. Sloan further informed The Power of Fives that his signatures were also being challenged. At that time, The Power of Fives LLC made no agreement to pay for those challenges, and The Power of Fives LLC made no agreement to defend Mr. Sloan's own signatures. Simply put, legal services were not services to be provided for in the contractual agreement between Sloan and The Power of Fives LLC. Mr. Sloan was successful in his attempt to remove Dunn, Farnsworth, and Owens from the ballot, and he was successful in defending his signatures that The Power of Fives LLC secured for him. A copy of the Tim La Sota's engagement letter showing that Sloan would pay for the legal fees (see Exhibit III).

On May 20, 2020, Eric Sloan asked The Power of Fives LLC to advance his campaign the \$23,000 in legal fees that he had amassed in April for the signature challenges of Dunn, Farnsworth, and Owens, and for the defense of his own signatures in the Superior Court and the Supreme Court. After being assured by Sloan and his attorney that it was legal for The Power of Fives LLC to do this, The Power of Fives LLC agreed. Sloan knew that his campaign would be billed \$23,000 for providing the service of funding his legal challenges. Sloan has never repaid this amount. (see Exhibit IV: La Sota's invoice, and Exhibit V: La Sota's revised itemized invoice),

The Power of Fives LLC successfully took Mr. Sloan to a victory in the 2020 Primary Election. When presented with the \$116, 016 invoice for his successful Primary Elections, Mr. Sloan refused to pay the invoice in full. A copy of the invoice is attached (see Exhibit VI).

Mr. Sloan signed a contract with The Power of Fives LLC and agreed to pay \$116, 016 to The Power of Fives LLC for his 2020 Primary race. Mr. Sloan did not pay The Power of Fives LLC; and furthermore, Mr. Sloan did not declare the full \$116, 016 in expenditures owed to The Power of Fives LLC in his campaign finance report; The Power of Fives LLC believes this is in violation of Campaign Finance Law.

Contractually, Eric Sloan owes \$116, 016 to The Power of Fives LLC for his Primary Campaign, and the full invoice should have been reported on his campaign finance report, not the \$67,731 that he did report.

Now, after reviewing Sloan's July 29 –Aug 4, 2020 campaign Finance Report (assuming that all of the other activity that Sloan reported is true and accurate), Sloan's YTD expenditures, with The Power of Fives LLC total invoice, should have been \$153,468. Sloan's Primary Income (assuming that all of the other activity that Sloan reported is true and accurate) is \$130,412. This would mean that Sloan over spent on his Primary campaign in by at least \$23,056. The Power of Fives LLC believes this is significant violation of Clean Election Law.

Thank you for allowing The Power of Fives LLC to perform its civic duty by reporting these violations to you.

I swear that the information provided in the above complaint is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Blessings,

Dr. Bob Branch

Managing Member

The Power of Fives LLC

Attachments: Exhibits I, Exhibit II, Exhibit III, Exhibit IV, Exhibit VI

STATE OF ARIZONA )
(SS.)
(County of Maricopa )

Robert Branch aka Bob Branch, being duly sworn, states as follows:

That he is the complainant in the foregoing complaint; and that the statements in the complaint are accurate and complete to the best of his knowledge and belief.

ROBERT BRANCH, Applicant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me, the undersigned notary public, this 24th day of October, 2020, by Robert Branch aka Bob Branch.

Notary Public

Seal & Commission Expiration Date:

AMANDA PENNINGTON Notary Public, State of Arizona Maricopa County Commission # 556366 My Commission Expires September 17, 2022

### Exhibit 1

### Signed Contract between Eric Sloan and The Power of Fives LLC



### SERVICE AGREEMENT

THIS SERVICE AGREEMENT (this "Agreement"), is entered into and effective as of 2019, by and between The Power of Fives, LLC, an Arizona limited liability company (the "Company"), and Free Slow, an individual (the "Candidate").

- The Candidate hereby engages the Company as an independent Services. contractor and the Company hereby accepts such engagement upon the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement. During the term of this Agreement, the Company agrees to provide to the Candidate the services described in Exhibit A (the "Services"). The Company represents that the Company has the special skill, professional competence, expertise and experience to undertake the obligations imposed by this Agreement, and will perform the Services in a diligent, efficient, competent and skillful manner commensurate with the highest standards of the Company's profession and in compliance with all applicable laws. The Company shall commit such time as is necessary to perform the Services. The Company acknowledges and agrees that the Company owes a duty while performing the Services under this Agreement to act in the best interests of the Candidate so as to maintain and increase the goodwill and reputation of the Candidate. The Company agrees to not make any statement, oral or written, intended to injure the business, interests or reputation of the Candidate. The Candidate agrees that during the term of this Agreement, without the Company's prior written consent, the Candidate will not engage any other consultant or contractor that provides services that are competitive to the Services provided by the Company.
- 2. <u>Compensation; Expenses.</u> The Company will be compensated for rendering the Services in the amounts set forth on <u>Exhibit A</u>. For the Services provided in Phase I of <u>Exhibit A</u>, the Company shall submit to the Candidate, not later than ten (10) days following the date hereof, an invoice setting forth the payment owed for Phase I. The Candidate shall pay all undisputed amounts on such invoice within thirty (30) days of the earlier of: (a) the termination of this Agreement, or (b) once the Candidate qualifies for public financing for the Primary Election. For the Services provided in Phase II or III of <u>Exhibit A</u>, the Company shall submit to the Candidate following the completion of some or all of the Services set forth in a respective payment period, an invoice setting forth the payment owed for such payment period. The Candidate shall pay all undisputed amounts on such invoices within thirty (30) days of receipt.

- 3. <u>Term.</u> The term of this Agreement shall commence upon the date first written above and shall continue until the Services have been completed, or as otherwise set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u>, unless earlier terminated as provided herein. The term of this Agreement may be shortened or extended upon the mutual written agreement of both parties.
- 4. <u>Termination</u>. Either party may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving the other party written notice of the termination at least thirty (30) days in advance of the date of termination. This Agreement may also be terminated upon mutual written agreement of the parties. Upon termination, the Candidate shall pay the Company all amounts previously invoiced and/or incurred by the Company in connection with the Services and both parties shall immediately return to the other parties all Confidential Information (as defined below) and information and products of whatever nature or kind and in whatever format. If either party fails to promptly return any products to the other party after the termination of this Agreement, the party in violation of this Section 4 shall pay the other party, or the other party shall have the right to retain such amounts from any compensation owed under Section 2, an amount equal to the manufacturer's suggested retail price of such products.
- 5. Independent Contractor Status. The Company's relationship to the Candidate shall be that of an independent contractor. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to make the Company or its employees an employee or agent of the Candidate or confer on the Company or its employees any rights, privileges or benefits as an employee of the Candidate. The Company shall have no right, power or authority (and shall not hold itself out as having any such right, power or authority) to bind the Candidate in any manner or to any agreement or undertaking with any third party except as specifically provided in this Agreement.
- 6. Ownership and Return of Creations. All Work Product (as defined below), conceived, created, made, developed, or acquired by or for the Company used to perform the Services shall remain the property of the Company. "Work Product" shall include, without limitation, all designs, documents, manuals, videos, drawings, logos, improvements, plans, developments, processes, business methods, trade secrets, and any and all copyrightable expression, all copyrightable works, and all patentable subject matter, in all media (whether existing now or to be invented), whether or not protected by statute, including all derivative works. At the Company's request and no later than five (5) days after such request, the Candidate shall destroy or deliver to the Company, at the Company's sole option, (i) all Work Product, (ii) all tangible media of expression in the Candidate's possession or control which incorporate or in which are fixed any Confidential Information of the Company, and (iii) written certification of the Candidate's compliance with the Candidate's obligations under this Section 6.
- 7. Work Shall Not Infringe Third Party Rights. The Company represents and warrants to the Candidate that all Work Product used in connection with the Services shall not infringe upon or violate any rights (whether patent, copyright, trademark or otherwise) of any third party.

- 8. Confidentiality. In the course of its performance under this Agreement, each of the parties hereto may have access to and contact with certain confidential and proprietary information relating to the other party's business including, but not limited to, business strategy, marketing strategy, financial, pricing, customer and dealer information, product designs, drawings, specifications, processes, techniques, and other similar information, documents or materials, which are hereinafter referred to collectively as "Confidential Information." Each party agrees, throughout the term of this Agreement and at all times following the termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever, to neither disclose, use (except in connection with the provision of Services), communicate, reveal, transfer, nor make available to any third party in any manner whatsoever, any Confidential Information of the other party. The foregoing shall not prevent either party from disclosing Confidential Information necessary to enforce the provisions of this Agreement.
- 9. Indemnification. The Candidate will indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its officers, managers, members, agents, contractors and employees, if any, from any and all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, expenses and costs (including attorney's fees and court costs) (collectively, "Claims"), which result from (i) any breach or alleged breach of any misrepresentation of any warranty or representation made by the Candidate in or pursuant to this Agreement, (ii) failure by the Candidate to perform or comply with any covenant or agreement made by it in or pursuant to this Agreement, or (iii) any Claim brought by, through or under the Candidate's employees, officers, directors, principals, members, agents, subconsultants or subcontractors and/or anyone for whom any of them may be responsible, and all losses in connection with such Claims, arising out of, or resulting from, or in any manner connected with the Services. The rights and obligations of the parties under this Section 9 shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.
- 10. Release. In consideration of the Services provided in Section 1, the Candidate hereby freely and voluntarily releases, waives, relinquishes and forever discharges on behalf of itself, its heirs, executors, administrators, officers, employees, agents or any other person claiming on its behalf, any and all claims, liabilities, obligations, demands or causes of action whatsoever (including those caused or alleged to be caused in whole or part by the negligence of the Company) (collectively, the "Releasees"), including, without limitation, claims for personal injury; wrongful death; property loss or damage; direct, indirect, punitive or consequential damages; lost profits; costs; charges; attorneys' fees; court costs; and other expenses of any kind arising, directly or indirectly, from the Services against the Company or its respective officers, employees, subsidiaries, affiliates, shareholders, members, directors, agents, successors and assigns.
- 11. <u>Picture/Media Release and Waiver</u>. The Candidate hereby irrevocably grants to the Company, its directors, officers, agents, employees and volunteers, and those acting with its authority with respect to the photographs, films, tape or other images taken of me by or on behalf of the Company (the "Images"), the unrestricted, absolute, perpetual, worldwide right to:
- (a) reproduce, copy, modify, create derivatives in whole or in part, or otherwise use and exploit the Images or any versions or portions thereof and my performance in connection with the Images, including my image, likeness, own or fictitious name, or reproduction thereof, biography, photograph, words, utterances, gestures and recorded voice, or

any part thereof in combination with or as a composite of other matter, including, but not limited to, text, data, images, photographs, illustrations, animation and graphics, video or audio segments of any nature, and any information, including but not limited to remarks, suggestions, ideas, graphics or other submissions, communicated to the Company, in all languages, in color or black & white, in any media or embodiment, now known or hereafter to become known, including, but not limited to, any and all forms of print, pay television, free television, network broadcasting, over the air subscription television systems, theatrical, non-theatrical, DVD, CD and all formats of computer readable electronic magnetic, digital, laser or optical based media (the "Works"). The Candidate also consents to the use of any film, printed, video or voice-over matter in conjunction therewith,

- (b) use and permit to be used the Candidate's name, image, likeness, biography, words, utterances and gestures, whether in original or modified form, in connection with the Works as the Company may choose, and
- (c) display, perform, exhibit, distribute, transmit or broadcast the Works by any means now known or hereafter to become known.

The Candidate hereby waives all rights and releases Releasees from, and shall neither sue nor bring any proceeding against any such parties for, any claim or cause of action, whether now known or unknown, for defamation, invasion of right to privacy, publicity or personality or any similar matter, or based upon or related to the use and exploitation of the Images, including, but not limited to, any act of blurring, computer imaging, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of such Images or in any subsequent processing thereof, as well as any publication thereof. The Candidate agrees that there shall be no obligation to utilize the authorization granted to the Candidate hereunder. The terms of this authorization shall commence on the date hereof and are without limitation.

- 12. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, all such counterparts shall be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument, and each such counterpart shall be deemed an original.
- 13. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties with respect to its subject matter; any other oral or written agreements entered into with respect thereto are revoked and superseded by this Agreement; and no representations, warranties or inducements have been made by either of the parties except as expressly set forth herein. This Agreement cannot be amended except by a written instrument signed by both parties.
- 14. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Agreement is declared invalid, void or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be deemed severed from this Agreement, which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.
- 15. <u>Assignability</u>. This Agreement may not be assigned by the Candidate without the prior written consent of the other.

- or controversy regarding this Agreement and if a resolution is not reached within thirty (30) days, the dispute, claim or controversy shall be settled by arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association under its Commercial Arbitration Rules for expedited arbitration. The parties agree that the arbitration will be conducted in Phoenix, Arizona. A demand for arbitration shall be made within a reasonable time after the claim, dispute or other matter in question has arisen, and in no event shall be made after the date when institution of legal or equitable proceedings based on such claim, dispute or other matter in question would be barred by the applicable statute of limitations. The parties agree that any dispute shall be heard and determined by one arbitrator appointed in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules. Unless the parties agree otherwise, pre-hearing discovery shall be limited to the exchange of information and the production of documents required by the arbitrator from the parties.
- 17. Governing Law; Attorneys' Fees. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Arizona, without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Arizona or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Arizona. Should any litigation be commenced under this Agreement, the successful party in such litigation shall be entitled to recover, in addition to such other relief as the court may award, its reasonable attorneys' fees, expert witness fees, litigation related expenses, and court or other costs incurred in such litigation.
- 18. Notices. All notices required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed effectively given: (a) upon personal delivery to the party to be notified; (b) five (5) days after having been sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid; or (c) one (1) day after deposit with a nationally recognized overnight courier, specifying next day delivery, with written or electronic verification of receipt. All notices shall be sent to the parties at the addresses set forth below their signatures to this Agreement or at such other address as a party may designate by ten (10) days' advance written notice to the other party.

[Signature page follows.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date and year first written above.

### CANDIDATE:

Name:

Stortidule AZ 85257

[Address]

### **COMPANY**:

THE POWER OF FIVES, LLC

Name: Robert Branch

Title: Manager

7000 North Cotton Lane, Suite 443,

Waddell, Arizona, 85355

### EXHIBIT A

### SERVICES AND COMPENSATION

Note: The Company will not directly solicit qualifying \$5 contributions and the Candidate at no time will pressure the Company to break any laws under the Citizens Clean Elections Act. A.R.S. § 16-940 et seq. (the "Act"). At no time will the Company spend more than the total Candidate's clean elections funding allotment for any phase (the "Fund Distribution"). The Candidate will be responsible for all required campaign reporting and adhering to the Act.

Phase	Services Provided / Term	Compensation
Phase I: Prefunding	Phase I will commence on the effective date of this Agreement and will end once the Candidate qualifies for public financing under the Act for the Primary Election. During Phase I, the Company will provide the following services:  Develop the campaign strategy for the Candidate, develop the Candidate's brand, develop the strategy to collect nomination petition signatures, and develop the strategy to collect qualifying \$5 contributions.  Groom the Candidate, help develop the Candidate's message and start branding the Candidate as a "The Power of Fives Candidate."  Organize forums that the Candidate can attend to collect qualifying \$5 contributions for the Primary Election.	[40% of the Primary Fund Distribution.]
Phase II: Funded Primary	Phase II will commence after the Candidate qualifies for public financing for the Primary Election and will end following the Primary Election, which is on Aug 4th. 2020 (Note: If the Candidate does not qualify for public financing under the Act, this Agreement shall immediately terminate). During Phase II, the Company will provide the following turn-key services:  Continue to groom and train the Candidate.  Manage the Candidate's campaign with a campaign management team.  Continue branding the Candidate as a "The Power of Five Candidate" and develop the Candidate's message.  Handle all print and radio advertising during Phase II, including (number based on the office sought) yards signs, and (number based on the office sought) of large highway signs.  Provide support as needed to support the strategic plan of the campaign, as determined by the Company.	[60% of the Primary Fund Distribution.]
Phase III: Funded General Election	Phase III will commence if the Candidate win the Primary Election and will end following the General Election, which is on Nov 3rd, 2020 (Note: If the Candidate does not win his or her Primary Election, this Agreement shall immediately terminate). During Phase III, the Company will provide the following turn-key services:  • Tailor the campaign with the Candidate to run against his or her new opponent.  • All campaign management will be provided, as well as any support that is needed based on the campaign plan and as determined by the Company.  • All print and radio ads will be provided by the Company as needed to support the campaign plan.	[100% of the General Election Fund Distribution.]

### Exhibit 1I

Sloan Lyons Public Affairs LLC contract with The Power of Fives LLC

### AGREEMENT BETWEEN SLOAN LYONS LLC and THE POWER OF FIVES LLC

This Agreement is made and entered into this 13th day of November, 2019, between SLOAN LYONS LLC with its principal place of business located at 10450 North 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsdale, Arizona (hereinafter "CONSULTANT") and THE POWER OF FIVES LLC with their principal place of business located at 7000 North Cotton Lane, Suite 443, Waddell, Arizona (hereinafter "CLIENT").

For and in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, **CLIENT** and **CONSULTANT** agree as follows:

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONSULTANT**

The CLIENT hereby contracts with the CONSULTANT to provide business consulting services to CLIENT.

### RETAINER FEE FOR WORK PERFORMED

The CLIENT shall pay to the CONSULTANT a monthly retainer fee of \$4,000.00 upon receipt of invoice for work to be performed as detailed in RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONSULTANT above. Invoices shall be submitted in advance via email the month prior to services being provided. CLIENT shall pay Consultant by check within 15 days upon receipt of the invoice.

### **TERM OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement shall begin on November 13, 2019 and will continue until terminated by either party with 30 days written notice. The terms of the Agreement can be renegotiated one year after the Agreement begins, and subsequently on the anniversary of the Agreement, unless terminated by either party.

### LABOR AND EQUIPMENT

The CONSULTANT shall be responsible for furnishing all supervision, labor, and office equipment required to perform the responsibilities and duties herein. Tools and supplies approved by and purchased for the CLIENT will be reimbursed at the full purchase price with no markup.

### INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

The CONSULTANT is an independent contractor, not an employee of the CLIENT. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any agency or employment relationship between the CLIENT or any of its employees and the CONSULTANT or any of its employees. The CONSULTANT has the right to perform services for others during the term of this Agreement. Neither the CONSULTANT nor its employees shall be required by the CLIENT to devote full time to the performance of the services required by this Agreement. The CONSULTANT acknowledges that it is fully responsible for its taxes, insurance, keeping financial records and filing all federal, state and local tax returns.

### WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

The CLIENT shall make no Workers Compensation payments on behalf of the CONSULTANT. The CONSULTANT is not entitled to Workers Compensation benefits in connection with work performed under this Agreement.

### CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

CONSULTANT acknowledges that it may be necessary for CLIENT to disclose certain confidential and proprietary information to CONSULTANT in order for CONSULTANT to perform duties under this Agreement. CONSULTANT acknowledges that disclosure to a third party or misuse of this confidential or proprietary information would irreparably harm CLIENT. Accordingly, CONSULTANT will not disclose or

use, either during or after the term of this Agreement, any confidential or proprietary information of CLIENT without CLIENT's prior written permission except to the extent necessary to perform services on CLIENT's behalf. Confidential and proprietary information includes but is not limited to the written, printed, graphic, or electronically recorded materials furnished by CLIENT for CONSULTANT to use; any written or tangible information stamped "confidential," "proprietary," or with a similar legend, or any information that CLIENT makes reasonable efforts to maintain the secrecy of; business or marketing plans or strategies, customer lists, operating procedures, trade secrets, design formulas, know-how and processes, curricula, computer programs, inventories, discoveries, and improvements of any kind, sales projections, pricing information; information belonging to customers and suppliers of CLIENT about whom CONSULTANT gained knowledge as a result of CONSULTANT's services to CLIENT. Upon termination of CONSULTANT's services to CLIENT, or at CLIENT's request, CONSULTANT shall deliver to CLIENT all materials in CONSULTANT's possession relating to CLIENT's business.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

CONSULTANT hereby represents that CONSULTANT does not have, and will not have, any actual or potential conflict of interest in connection with performing and fulfilling CONSULTANT'S obligations under this Agreement. In the event that CONSULTANT learns of any actual or potential conflict of interest inconsistent with the foregoing representation, CONSULTANT shall notify CLIENT immediately, and CLIENT shall then have the right, in its sole discretion, to mandate the management of any such conflict or unilaterally change the Scope of Work in response thereto, or to terminate this Agreement.

### **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

The within Agreement shall be construed in accordance with Arizona law and shall constitute the entire Agreement between the parties.

SLOAN LYONS LLC and THE POWER OF FIVES LLC have approved and executed this Agreement the date and year set forth above.

SLOAN LYONS LLC

BY: Alisa Lyons Sloan Member

Date

THE POWER OF FIVES LLC

BY: Robert Branch, Member

### Exhibit III

Tim La Sota's Engagement letter showing that Sloan would pay for the legal challenges

### Timothy A. La Sota, PLC

2198 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 305 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 P 602-515-2649 tim@timlasota.com

### **ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

April 16, 2020

Dr. Robert "Bob" Branch

Dear Dr. Branch:

This letter is a proposal for Timothy A. La Sota, PLC ("TAL") to represent you ("Client"). TAL proposes the following.

Description of Services. TAL will perform legal services as follows:

TAL will file suit to invalidate the petition signatures of Boyd Dunn, Corporation Commission candidate, and to have election officials enjoined from printing Dunn's name on the ballot.

Billing Statements and Payment.

Client shall not be responsible for any legal fees or costs billed by TAL. Client understands that Sloan for Corporation Commission will be paying all fees and costs.

3. Storage and Destruction of Your File. Once your matter is completed, our customary procedure is to close your file and send it to an off-site storage facility. If we did not previously do so, upon your written request, we will send to you any original documents and any original material that you have given to us. If you would like to receive your file at the conclusion of the matter, please notify us in writing now or promptly after the conclusion of our active service on your behalf. Once the file has been sent to the off-site storage facility, there may be a charge for its retrieval.

IF YOU DO NOT NOTIFY OUR FIRM OF YOUR DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOUR FILE, AND IT IS PLACED IN STORAGE, YOU SHOULD ASSUME THAT YOUR FILE, INCLUDING ANY ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, WILL BE DESTROYED, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU, FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF OUR FIRM ACTIVELY PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR MATTER.

Dr. Branch April 20, 2020 Page -2-

If the following is agreeable to you, please sign and return. I understand that in this instance, approval may require a vote of the full board.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions with regard to this engagement letter. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY A. LA SOTA, PLC

Timothy La Sota

Timothy A. La Sota

ACCEPTED this 16 day of April, 2020.

Dr. Robert "Bob" Branch

Signature

### Exhibit IV

Tim La Sota's Invoice to The Power of Fives LLC for Sloan's legal challenges, and Showing that The Power of Fives LLC paid that invoice.

### Timothy A. La Sota, PLC

2198 East Camelback Rd., Suite 305 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 P 602-515-2649 tim@timlasota.com

Invoice Number: 3631 (June 2020)

Matter: Power of Fives, general

TO:

Dr. Robert Branch Principal, Power of Fives

April/May

\$23,000 flat fee, per Agreement

TOTAL DUE: \$23,000.00

Thank you!

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CORPETITION

### Exhibit V

Tim La Sota's revised itemized invoice to The Power of Fives LLC for Sloan's legal challenges

### Timothy A. La Sota, PLC

2198 East Camelback Rd., Suite 305 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 P 602-515-2649 tim@timlasota.com

Invoice Number: 3631 (June 2020-AMENDED 8/5/20)

Matter: Power of Fives, general

TO:

Dr. Robert Branch Principal, Power of Fives

April/May

\$23,000 flat fee, per Agreement:

Superior Court cases against Owens, Dunn and Farnsworth: \$3,333 each

Dunn Appeal: \$3,000.

Sloan defense, Superior and Supreme Court: \$10,000.

Total: \$23,000

Total Paid: \$23,000

TOTAL DUE: \$0

Thank you!

### Exhibit VI

The Power of Fives LLC Invoice for Eric Sloan's Primary Race



### SENT VIA EMAIL AND USPS

Invoice # 1010
Primary Election
Phase I and Phase II Invoice
Page 1 of 2

July 31, 2020
Primary Election Invoice

Mr. Eric Sloan 8649 E. Holly Street Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

Eric,

Once again, I want to congratulate you on the successful Primary Election. The Power of Fives LLC is excited to have provided to you a winning strategy and the complete "turnkey" campaign support that guided you to victory. Your victory is our shared victory.

This is the final invoice for Phase I and II of your campaign, the total contractual amount of \$116,016.

Please reference the following, for the Final Primary Election Invoice breakdown:

### **Total Campaign Services**

Strategic Campaign Development	\$25,000.00
Orientation with photos	\$500.00
Candidate Training	\$1,000.00
Candidate Field Support	\$45,235.92
Signature Challenge Strategy	\$23,000.00
Campaign Meet and Greets	\$575.45
Media Banners	\$301.91
Media Linkedin accounts	\$1,500.00
Voter contact development	\$6,504.72
Campaign development Admin	\$7,300.00
Use of The Power of Fives Brand Logo	\$1,000.00
Payment for signatures and admin fee	\$3,500.00
Copies plus admin fees	\$598.00
Total =	\$116,016.00



Invoice # 1010
Primary Election
Phase I and Phase II Invoice
Page 2 of 2

Per the Contract, Addendum A, you currently owe The Power of Fives LLC \$116,016 for Phase I and Phase II.

Again, congratulations on a very successful Primary Election, and please know that our contract is still in effect until August 24, 2020, and we reserve the right to submit a Phase III invoice for any necessary costs and expenses incurred.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these services.

THE POWER OF FIVES LLC

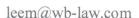
Dr. Robert Branch Managing Member

The Power of Fives LLC

Dr.Branch@thepoweroffives.com

602-334-6519

Lee Miller





### ATTORNEYS AT LAW

The Wilenchik & Bartness Building 2810 North Third Street Phoenix Arizona 85004

Telephone: 602-606-2810 Facsimile: 602-606-2811 November 5, 2020

Mr. Tom Collins
Executive Director, Citizens Clean Elections Commission
1616 West Adams, Suite 110
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
via email to thomas collins

via email to thomas.collins@azcleanelections.gov

RE: Complaint for Power of Fives against Sloan 2020

Dear Tom:

This firm represents candidate Eric Sloan and the Sloan 2020 candidate committee (collectively the "Committee"). I write to respond to the allegations made against the Committee by Bob Branch. A cursory review of the Committee's campaign finance reports together with our enclosures directs a decision that no violations of the Clean Election Act or its regulations have occurred and that this matter should be closed as there is no basis to proceed.

Simply put, Mr. Branch is a disgruntled consultant who was fired by the Committee because the firm failed to follow the Committee's directions. Two things are critical to note. The first is that the Committee has already tendered payment to Branch's company in the amount of \$67,730. As of this writing Branch has not cashed the check. The Committee, as it has already informed the Commission, disputes that it owes Branch anything else, including reimbursement for legal fees. Nonetheless, the Committee has reserved \$23,000 in its primary spending account if it is ultimately determined that the Committee does owe that amount. As called for in the original contract the Committee signed with Branch's company, this dispute is subject to arbitration. Both sides are proceeding through the initial steps of the arbitration process. The arbitrator has not yet scheduled a hearing.

The Committee terminated Branch on July 25, 2020. The Committee's principal reason for terminating his firm is that they would not take direction from the Committee and continually presented the committee with plans and invoices for services not authorized by the Committee. Branch sent the Committee an invoice on July 24 and proposed to bill for such items as potential development and support expenses as well as future use of Branch's logo. The Committee, on the other hand, expected Branch to budget and bill for things like social media ad placement, text messages, radio and the usual voter contact expenses. The Committee and Branch never agreed on a primary period spending program and he was terminated per the contract.

The July 24 invoice from Branch is also informative in that it acknowledges that as of that day Branch believed the Committee was still \$20,000 under its Clean Elections funding amount, let alone the amount available to the Committee when seed money is added to the available balance. This \$20,000 is the amount reflected in the Branch invoice for "signs estimated cost not paid." The Committee raised over \$13,000 in seed money and, as of July 24, had \$3982 in cash on hand.

Branch asserts he is owed a total of \$116, 016 regardless of the quantity or quality of goods or services he provided to the Committee. The Committee disagrees. The Committee may have ultimately spent that amount of money with Branch but that to do so there would have been



continuing discussions and consent to the pieces and parts of Branch's campaign plan. The Committee did pay Branch for the services that were satisfactory to the campaign. We dispute that there was any agreement to reimburse Branch for legal fees, however we have reserved an appropriate amount should it be determined that the Committee is liable for that expense. And even Branch agrees that when he was terminated the Committee still had at least \$20,000 in available funds.

One can debate the value of the services Branch provided and we will do that in the arbitration. Regardless of the value, the Committee has tendered payment of \$67,730 to Branch. Likewise, an arbitrator will rule on whether any one authorized to spend the Committee's money authorized a fee agreement between Branch, Tim LaSota and the Committee. Our position is that neither Mr. Sloan nor anyone else authorized by the Committee approved this expense. For these purposes that matter is irrelevant as an appropriate amount is held in reserve. Branch himself acknowledges that on the day he was terminated the Committee had neither spent nor committed to its' remaining \$20,000 balance of Clean Elections funding. And, the Committee still had \$3982 of seed money on hand. The Committee did not exceed its primary spending limit. This matter should be closed as there is no legal or factual basis on which to proceed.

acerely

ee Miller

Enclosures

cc:

Eric Sloan Alisa Lyons

Jack Wilenchik



Invoice # 1007
Preliminary Invoice

July 24, 2020

Sloan2020 Campaign Mr. Eric Sloan 8649 E. Holly Street Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

Hello Eric.

I want to congratulate you on the successful Primary Election. The Power of Fives LLC is excited to have provided to you a winning strategy that guided you to victory. Your victory is our shared victory.

Per your request, here is a preliminary invoice for budgeting purposes, and the final bill will be submitted once the Primary is finalized. As you can see, we have one item on the bill that is an estimate and that is for highway signs. I am using the figures that you and Brett gave me (\$15,000 plus \$5000 for stakes). I tried to put it in Alisa's format, and I did the best that I could; however, her format did not take into consideration expenses like copies. If she has any suggestions on the format that I am providing please let me know.

Here is the breakdown of the preliminary invoicing for the Primary Election. As you can see, we are almost out of Primary money, so we need to keep track of the actual cost of the highway signs.

Strategic Campaign Development	\$ 25,000.00
Orientation with photos	\$ 500.00
Candidate Training	\$ 1,000.00
Candidate Field Support	\$ 28,872.00 Partial payment of \$23,622 (less expenses for \$5,250 future field support)
Signature Challenge Strategy	\$ 23,000.00 Disputed - Not paid
Campaign Meet and Greets	
Includes tables at events	\$ 575.45
Voter contact development	\$ 6,504.72
Campaign Development Admin	\$ 7,300.00
Media Banners	\$ 301.91
Media Linkedin accounts	\$ 1,500.00
Use of The Power of Fives Brand Logo	\$ 1,000.00
Copies	\$ 426.86
Media Prebuys 1000 highway signs	\$ 20,000.00 Estimated Cost Not paid
Parties T. 4.1	6115 000 04

Preliminary Total \$115,980.94

Again, congratulations on a very successful Primary, and please know that The Power of Fives looks forward to working on your victory in the General Election.

It is a pleasure working with you and your campaign toward the path to victory.

### The Power of Fives LLC

Dr. Bob Branch
Managing Member
7000 N. Cotton Ln, Ste. 443
Waddell, AZ 85355
602-334-6519
Dr.Branch@thepoweroffives.com

### Fwd: Revised Invoice and Contract Termination Notification

Alisa Lyons <alisa@sloanlyons.com>

Thu 11/5/2020 10:57 AM

To: lee@leemillerlaw.com <lee@leemillerlaw.com>

### Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric Sloan <sloanforarizona@gmail.com>

Date: July 25, 2020 at 1:29:17 PM MST

To: Bob Branch < dr.robertbranch@gmail.com >, "Dr. Bob Branch"

<<u>dr.branch@thepoweroffives.com</u>>

Cc: lee@leemillerlaw.com

**Subject: Revised Invoice and Contract Termination Notification** 

Bob: Thank you for sending your preliminary invoice.

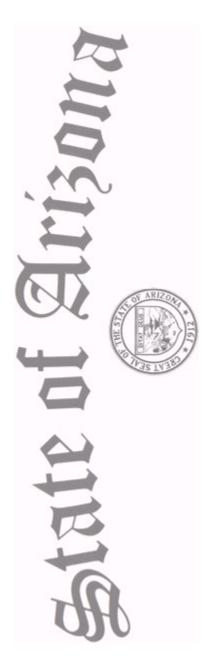
Attached are modified, consolidated line items that more closely comply with Exhibit A of our contract, and reflect costs expended to date. The gross cost remains the same, minus costs for future expenses related to candidate field support, media pre-buys and signs. The attached has been reviewed by my counsel and is the final invoice.

As the fiscal agent of Clean Elections dollars for the Sloan2020 campaign, I direct you to not spend or commit to spend the \$25,250 included in your preliminary invoice for candidate field support, media pre-buys and signs, or any other expenses.

In accordance with our contract, I will be sending you a formal 30 day notice of contract termination and a check for \$90,730.94. When you cash the check, we are mutually agreed that the contract is terminated.

Eric C. Sloan
SloanforArizona@gmail.com
602-300-7618

Paid for by Sloan2020



# Campaign Finance Report

Sloan2020

Committee #: 20200066

Treasurer: sloan, eric

10450 N 74th St, Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Phone: (602) 300-7618

Email: sloanforarizona@gmail.com Candidate Name: Sloan, Eric Office Sought: Corporation Commissioner

## Amended 2020 Primary Recap Report

Election Cycle: Date Filed:

July 29, 2020-August 4, 2020 August 14, 2020 Reporting Period:

## **Summary of Finances**

\$89,799.36 \$23,854.78 \$50.00 \$113,604.14 Total Cash Disbursements this Reporting Period: Cash Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period: Total Cash Receipts this Reporting Period:

Cash Balance at End of Reporting Period:

## Summary of Activity

Income	Schedule		This Period		T-4-14- D-4-
		Cash	Other	Total	lotal to Date
Personal and Family Contributions	C1	00.0\$	00'0\$	\$0.00	\$1,424.02
Individual Contributions	C2	00'02\$	00'0\$		\$13,022.20
Contributions from Political Committees	C3a,b,c	00.0\$	00'0\$	00'0\$	00.0\$
Business Contributions	C4a,b,c	00'0\$			00'0\$
Small Contributions	C5	00.0\$		00.0\$	00.0\$
CCEC Funding and Matching	90	00'0\$	00'0\$	00'0\$	\$116,016.00
Qualifying Contributions	C7	00.0\$			00.0\$
Loans Made to this Committee	L1	00'0\$			00.0\$
Other Receipts, including Interest and Dividends	R1	00.0\$	00'0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Transfers from Other Committees	11	00'0\$			00.0\$
Cash Surplus from Previous Committee	S1	00.0\$	00.0\$	\$0.00	00.0\$
Total Income		\$20.00	00'0\$	\$20.00	\$130,462.22

Expenditures	Schedule		This Period		T-4-1
		Cash	Other	Total	lotal to Date
Operating Expenses	E1	\$89,799.36	00'0\$	\$89,799.36	\$105,183.42
Independent & Ballot Measure Expenditures	E2a,b,c	00.0\$	00'0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Contributions to Committees/Businesses	E3a -E3f	00.0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Small Expenses	E4	00'0\$	00'0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Transfers to Other Committees	T1	00.0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Loans Made by This Committee	L2	00'0\$	00'0\$	00.0\$	00.0\$
Disposal of Surplus Cash	S1	00'0\$	00'0\$	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenditures		\$89,799.36	00'0\$	\$89,799.36	\$105,183.42
Bill Payments for Previous Expenditures	D1	00.0\$		\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Cash Disbursed		98 664,68\$			

### 202000066 Sloan2020

Schedule C	Schedule C2 - Individual contributions	Date	Amount	Cycle To Date
Name:	Root, Scott	08/03/2020	\$20.00	\$100.00
Address:	10428 W Meade Dr, Sun City, AZ 85351		Cash	
Occupation:	Realtor, Self			
Total of Individual Contributions	ontributions		\$50.00	
Total of Refunds Given	Ven		\$0.00	
Net Total of Individual Contributions	ial Contributions		\$20.00	

Schedule E1	E1 - Operating expenses	Date	Amount	Cycle To Date
Name:	Anedot	07/29/2020	\$451.97	\$451.97
Address:	PO Box 84314, Baton Rouge, LA 70898		Cash	
Category:	Miscellaneous - Other			
Memo:	Credit Card Processing Fees			
Name:	Arena Mail & Digital	07/29/2020	\$9,857.00	\$9,857.00
Address:	1260 Stringham Avenue, Suite 350, Salt Lake City, UT 84106		Cash	
Category:	Communications - Advertising			
Memo:	Advertising, Website Development, Web Hosting, Video Production			
Name:	Chance Wnuck	07/29/2020	\$1,600.00	\$4,600.00
Address:	4649 E Acoma Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85032		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Sign installation			
Name:	SED Agency LLC	07/30/2020	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Address:	3655 Anthem Way, A-109 #272, Anthem, AZ 85086		Cash	
Category:	Communications - Other			
Memo:	Website Development			
Name:	Intrepid Global Strategies, LLC	08/03/2020	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Address:	3421 E Avalon Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85018		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Consultants			
Memo:	Campaign Consulting			
Name:	Ladge Films, LLC	08/03/2020	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00
Address:	1 N 1st St Suite 642, PHoenix, AZ 85004		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Photography			
Memo:	Filming			
Name:	Lee Miller, Attorney at Law	08/03/2020	\$609.45	\$909.45
Address:	2029 E Orangewood Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85020		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Attorney fees			
Name:	The Power of Fives LLC	08/03/2020	\$67,730.94	\$67,730.94
Address:	7000 N. Cotton Lane, Suite 443, Waddell, AZ 85355		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Consultants			
Memo:	Campaign Consulting			
Name:	TIMON HARPER	08/03/2020	\$250.00	\$250.00
Address:	PHX, PHOENIX, AZ 85031		Cash	
Category:	Professional Services - Photography			
Total of Operating Expenses	penses		\$89,799.36	
Total of Refunds, Re	Total of Refunds, Rebates, and Credits Received		\$0.00	
Net Total of Operating Expenses	g Expenses		\$89,799.36	