

# EXHIBIT A

to Response in Opposition to Motion for Reconsideration (Doc. 24)

Full Transcript of Hearing on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA,  
IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 24-003717-CI

CHRISTOPHER GLEASON,  
Plaintiff,

-vs-

JULIE MARCUS, in her official capacity  
as Pinellas County Supervisor of  
Elections; et. al.,

Defendants.

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VIDEO TELECONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS HELD BEFORE  
THE HONORABLE PETER RAMSBERGER

DATE TAKEN: Thursday, August 29, 2024  
TIME: Commencing at 10:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Pinellas County Courthouse  
545 First Avenue North  
Room 2B  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Examination of the witness taken before:

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COURT DEPUTY: All rise. Court is now in session with the Honorable Senior Circuit Court Judge Peter Ramsberger presiding.

THE COURT: Whoa, a lot of people. Have a seat, please.

Everybody doing all right?

MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Let me see, we'll go on the record. Court reporter is here.

The case that is set for hearing this morning is Case No. 24-3717 and I'm Judge Ramsberger, the other one. That's what they tell me. I don't know what that means. I guess there's another one that shares the same last name.

I have Christopher Gleason, who is the plaintiff.

Are you Christopher Gleason?

MR. GLEASON: I am, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Good morning.

MR. GLEASON: Good morning.

THE COURT: You are representing yourself?

MR. GLEASON: Yes.

THE COURT: Okay. And then I have, I guess, several defendants. Julie Marcus is a defendant.

1 MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor. My name is  
2 Kelly Vicari. I represent the defendants  
3 collectively in this case, Julie Marcus, Matt  
4 Smith and Dustin Chase, the three named  
5 defendants.

6 THE COURT: And tell me your name again? I'm  
7 sorry.

8 MS. VICARI: Kelly Vicari, V-i-c-a-r-i.

9 THE COURT: Good morning.

10 MS. VICARI: Good morning.

11 THE COURT: And you've got some other folks  
12 at the table?

13 MS. VICARI: I have second chair, Jared Kahn  
14 from my office.

15 Jessica Haas, she's here to help with any  
16 technical difficulties we may encounter.

17 And we have Defendant, Matt Smith here in the  
18 courtroom.

19 THE COURT: Matt Smith?

20 MR. SMITH: Yes.

21 THE COURT: I have defendants Julie Marcus,  
22 who is the Supervisor of Elections in Pinellas  
23 County?

24 MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Dustin Chase. What's Dustin

1 Chase' position?

2 MS. VICARI: He is a Deputy of Supervisor of  
3 Elections Office.

4 THE COURT: Okay. And then Matt Smith.

5 MS. VICARI: Yes.

6 THE COURT: What position is Matt Smith?

7 MS. VICARI: He is legal counsel to Julie  
8 Marcus at the Supervisor of Elections.

9 THE COURT: All right. So everyone's here.

10 And the -- when the Complaint came in, it was  
11 reviewed to see if it qualified for Emergency  
12 Temporary Injunction. And that was extensively  
13 reviewed. It was a lot of work -- put a lot of  
14 effort in this, Mr. Gleason. Obviously there's a  
15 lot of effort that you put in. And the Court did  
16 not issue that temporary injunction.

17 There was also a Motion for Reconsideration  
18 that was also filed. Again, a lot of effort went  
19 into the motion, spent a lot of time on it. The  
20 motion was denied. So the case is still an  
21 active, pending case.

22 The Complaint is still here, it's filed.

23 Has everyone been served with the Complaint?

24 MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: There has been service?

1 MS. VICARI: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Okay. And then you'll file a  
3 response within so many days?

4 MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor, the deadline to  
5 respond is September 11.

6 THE COURT: So that will happen in the normal  
7 course.

8 However, it was brought to my attention by a  
9 really talented staff attorney, Mr. Williford, who  
10 goes, you know, we need to set an accelerated  
11 hearing under the 119, Public Records Act. We  
12 need to do that. And I said, yeah, if that's what  
13 the statute says, we need to do it. And he  
14 assured me we need to do it, so here we are.

15 This is the hearing under 119, I think it  
16 might be paren one, the first part of 119 that  
17 says the Court shall set an accelerated hearing.  
18 So here we are in compliance with the accelerated  
19 hearing.

20 So having said that, my first question  
21 usually is do the folks want a chance to talk to  
22 each other? Lots of time folks don't communicate  
23 with each other, the courtroom is the first time  
24 they see each other, maybe there's something to  
25 talk about, maybe there's some temporary

1 resolution, a Band-Aid they want to put on it so  
2 the Court doesn't have to get all into it. And if  
3 you-all want the chance to talk to each other, I'd  
4 be happy to let you do that. I'll be happy to  
5 step off and let you chat. If you don't want to  
6 do that we can start the hearing.

7 Anyone want to talk to each other? If you  
8 want to, I'll give you that opportunity. If you  
9 want to, I'll let you know you certainly don't  
10 have to. It's up to you.

11 MR. GLEASON: I'm not an attorney. I did  
12 stay at a Holiday Inn once, but I'm not an  
13 attorney, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: A Holiday Inn?

15 MR. GLEASON: I stayed at a Holiday Inn once,  
16 but I'm not an attorney.

17 THE COURT: I know that because you stayed at  
18 the Holiday Inn.

19 Is anyone here from Holiday Inn? I'm in  
20 trouble. That was a joke. Oh, I'm in trouble  
21 with the Holiday Inn people now.

22 I don't know, you're obviously here seeking  
23 something today.

24 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: The temporary injunction has



1 already been denied. That's not before the Court  
2 here today.

3 Obviously I guess you're not happy with the  
4 public records request response, I take it. But  
5 if there's something you-all want to talk about,  
6 I'll be happy to step off and you-all can talk  
7 formally off the record. If you don't want to,  
8 you don't have to. We'll start this accelerated  
9 hearing.

10 It's your case, Mr. Gleason. Do you want a  
11 minute to talk to the attorney, Mrs. Vicari at  
12 all?

13 MR. GLEASON: I'll do that.

14 THE COURT: Good. I'll step off for a few  
15 minutes. What you say is confidential, can't be  
16 repeated, can't be used against you. It's called  
17 a settlement discussion. If you-all want to chat  
18 about it, whatever, maybe put a Band-Aid on it  
19 until we get to the next stage of the process,  
20 have at it. If you don't want to, I'll be right  
21 next door, the deputy will come and get me. Fair  
22 enough?

23 MR. GLEASON: Fair enough.

24 THE COURT: All right. You-all talk, let me  
25 know when you want me to come back.

1 COURT DEPUTY: All rise.

2 (There was a brief recess.)

3 COURT DEPUTY: All rise, please. Court is  
4 back in session.

5 THE COURT: Okay, have a seat.

6 Mr. Gleason, I'll start with you for this  
7 accelerated hearing.

8 What would you like the Court to do at this  
9 point?

10 MR. GLEASON: I would like the Court to issue  
11 out a subpoena for documents that are all related  
12 to the public records and the conduct of the  
13 election that was held on August 20th.

14 THE COURT: Well, you're confusing me here a  
15 little bit. You want me to issue a subpoena?

16 MR. GLEASON: To the defendants to produce,  
17 or order them to produce the documents that they  
18 need to, such as the audit logs, the chain of  
19 custody for the Vote by Mail Ballots that were --

20 THE COURT: Is this a written request for all  
21 the documents you specified?

22 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Where is that written  
24 request, in the Complaint?

25 MR. GLEASON: It was -- let's see. Here we

1 go.

2 THE COURT: Does the defense acknowledge that  
3 you've received a request for records?

4 MS. VICARI: Your Honor, I would.

5 THE COURT: Because what I'm hearing right  
6 now is he doesn't think you're complying with his  
7 request for public records.

8 MS. VICARI: Your Honor, we're here for a  
9 very limited purpose today. Within the Complaint,  
10 when you read the Complaint, there are only two  
11 requests that Mr. Gleason is alleging that were  
12 made that were not appropriately responded to.

13 The first request he details at Paragraphs 14  
14 and 15 of the Complaint. Our position is that  
15 there was actually not a request for records made  
16 at that time, he asked for "information," which he  
17 was verbally given. So we would disagree on the  
18 first, that that does not even qualify as a public  
19 records request.

20 As to the second request that is within the  
21 Complaint, and that's at Paragraphs 30 and 31.

22 THE COURT: Of the Complaint?

23 MS. VICARI: Of the Complaint.

24 THE COURT: So there's no separate written  
25 request?

1 MS. VICARI: There is, Your Honor. It's my  
2 understanding 30 and 31 are discussing a second  
3 written request. There were two emails attached  
4 as exhibits to the Complaint. Those two emails,  
5 the first is from Mr. Gleason to the Supervisor of  
6 Elections, and the second is the response from the  
7 Supervisor of Elections.

8 It is my understanding that that is the  
9 public records request that we are here for today,  
10 that's what's been attached as an exhibit. And we  
11 are prepared to make the argument that that was  
12 appropriately responded to and that it -- you  
13 know, Mr. Gleason failed to follow through on what  
14 was necessary on his end to obtain those records.

15 Those are the only two that we are here for  
16 today.

17 To the extent that Mr. Gleason is trying to  
18 discuss other requests that are not contained  
19 within the Complaint, we would object to that.  
20 Only these two requests have been submitted.  
21 We've not been put on notice of a challenge to  
22 other requests, nor have those challenges been set  
23 for hearing here today.

24 So from our standpoint, we're dealing with  
25 these very two finite issues today.

1 THE COURT: Okay. Do you think Mr. Gleason's  
2 precluded if he wants to renew a public records  
3 request from resubmitting in writing exactly the  
4 public record request that he wants? Do you think  
5 he's precluded from doing that?

6 MS. VICARI: No, absolutely not, Your Honor.  
7 It's just that likely he will receive the same  
8 response from defendant, which is that there has  
9 to be an Oath of Affirmation because some of the  
10 records --

11 THE COURT: I'm sorry, a what?

12 MS. VICARI: It's an Oath of Affirmation.  
13 It's a document essentially stating that he is  
14 going to maintain the records as confidential.  
15 The records that he's asking for are Vote by Mail  
16 Ballot request information. Under Statute --  
17 Florida Statute 101.622, that information is  
18 confidential and exempt from Chapter 119, unless  
19 you fall into an excepted category, one of which  
20 being that you are a candidate, and a candidate  
21 who has opposition.

22 So Mr. Gleason would qualify for those  
23 records; however, he needs to file an Oath of  
24 Affirmation stating that he agrees to keep the  
25 records confidential.

1           Second, rather, the request was so broad it  
2           was determined that it would take somewhere around  
3           19,000 hours to respond to, so he was asked to  
4           either try to narrow that and the defendant would  
5           help him, or if not, they would proceed with the  
6           request as is, but it would result in a special  
7           service charge that would likely be significant  
8           that they would have to get back to him with.

9           THE COURT: Okay. Do you want to respond to  
10          that, Mr. Gleason?

11          MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor. The requests  
12          that I made were -- was in particular for the  
13          record of Vote by Mail Ballot requests. I also  
14          made requests for the Returned as Undeliverable  
15          Vote by Mail Ballots. And I also made requests  
16          for chain of custody for all of these -- all of  
17          the received Vote by Mail Ballot requests.

18          I have many numerous outstanding requests  
19          that were made in writing with extreme specificity  
20          to the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections  
21          office.

22          THE COURT: These are requests in writing?

23          MR. GLEASON: Yes, sir.

24          THE COURT: And where are these requests?

25          MR. GLEASON: They were -- some of them,

1 actually all of them they have copies of. They  
2 were sent via email.

3 THE COURT: They were sent by email?

4 MR. GLEASON: Yes, sir.

5 THE COURT: And when was that?

6 MR. GLEASON: Going back to logic and  
7 accuracy testing.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Were they attached to your  
9 Complaint?

10 MR. GLEASON: No. No, they were not, Your  
11 Honor.

12 THE COURT: What's that?

13 MR. GLEASON: No. No, they were not. Not  
14 all of them, no.

15 However, the Vote by Mail request information  
16 is contained in an electronic record. All of  
17 these records that I have requested are electronic  
18 records.

19 And Florida Administrative Code talks about  
20 all of these electronic records, so does public  
21 records records logs, they talk about how  
22 electronic records and the charges that -- the  
23 special service charge that the Pinellas County  
24 Supervisor of Election likes to tack onto  
25 everything, is typically for printed documents.

1 And if they are just producing the electronic  
2 record, that they are required by Florida law to  
3 retain, I just want the electronic records. And  
4 as they are electronic records, they should be  
5 free. There should be no service charge.

6 THE COURT: Counsel mentioned something about  
7 an Oath of Affirmation as to confidentiality. Do  
8 you want to address that?

9 MR. GLEASON: This is the first that I have  
10 ever heard of that, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Okay. I think she made reference  
12 to 101.622. Is that something you want to take a  
13 look at at some point, since you said you're  
14 unaware of it?

15 She just mentioned it. You don't have to do  
16 it right now, but she apparently indicated you  
17 have not complied with a requirement pertaining to  
18 I think what she said, confidentiality reference  
19 to an Oath of Affirmation.

20 MS. VICARI: Your Honor, I misspoke. Oath of  
21 Acquisition. It's an Oath of Acquisition.

22 THE COURT: Oath of Acquisition, I'm sorry.

23 MS. VICARI: I apologize, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MS. VICARI: And I would refer the Court to



1 the exhibits, the response from Dustin Chase dated  
2 July 25th of 2024, which is attached to the  
3 Complaint. It says, "Dear Mr. Gleason, as a  
4 candidate with opposition, you are entitled to the  
5 list of Mail Ballot Requests after filling -- or  
6 filing your Oath of Acquisition."

7 THE COURT: Say that again, please, that  
8 whole thing.

9 MS. VICARI: Email dated Thursday, July 25th,  
10 2024 from Dustin Chase to Mr. Gleason. It states,  
11 "Dear Mr. Gleason, as a candidate with opposition,  
12 you are entitled to the list of Mail Ballot  
13 Requests after filing your Oath of Acquisition."  
14 And then it goes on.

15 THE COURT: So it says you are entitled to  
16 it?

17 MS. VICARI: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Are you a candidate, I take it?

19 MR. GLEASON: I am, Your Honor. I'm a  
20 candidate.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. GLEASON: So this form that they are  
23 referring to, I believe, is a form to get the Vote  
24 by Mail Ballot list that shows certain information  
25 in it.

1 I already have that. I obtained that vote --  
2 statewide Vote by Mail Early Voting list directly  
3 from the State of Florida.

4 What I've requested was the electronic  
5 records that the Supervisor of Elections is  
6 required to maintain to include the order forms  
7 and the records of any telephone requests for Vote  
8 by Mail Ballots, any in-person in-writing requests  
9 for Vote by Mail Ballots, and any and all logs  
10 from their online ordering system for the Vote by  
11 Mail Ballots. That is what I am requesting.

12 And Statute 101.62 is very clear. It says  
13 that voters who have made the request can request  
14 that information, and so can qualified candidates.

15 And so, Your Honor, it's very simple, it is  
16 not a difficult request. The only reason why this  
17 request has been concealed has been to infer a  
18 benefit to Julie Marcus, also to my detriment, and  
19 the detriment of my campaign.

20 Now, part of the Complaint that was filed was  
21 about a Motion to Stop Election Fraud. Now, what  
22 we know is that --

23 THE COURT: Well, I'm not really getting into  
24 all --

25 MR. GLEASON: Okay.

1 THE COURT: -- the nitty gritty and the issue  
2 of the case. That's all going to get flushed out  
3 in the litigation process. Right now it's just  
4 this accelerated hearing under 119.

5 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Is it your intention to provide  
7 an Oath of Acquisition back?

8 MR. GLEASON: I mean, I'll do it. I have no  
9 problem with that.

10 THE COURT: I mean, they asked you for it,  
11 right?

12 MR. GLEASON: Just now.

13 THE COURT: They didn't ask you for it  
14 previously in an email?

15 MR. GLEASON: No, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: I thought you said you had it in  
17 an email.

18 MS. VICARI: Your Honor, there is an email  
19 that's attached to the Complaint. He attached the  
20 email to the Complaint where it clearly says,  
21 "Dear Mr. Gleason, as a candidate with opposition,  
22 you are entitled to the list of Mail Ballot  
23 Requests after filing your Oath of Acquisition."

24 THE COURT: That's in an email?

25 MS. VICARI: It's in the email. He attached

1           it to the Complaint itself.

2           MR. GLEASON: But that Oath of Acquisition,  
3           Your Honor, is for the statewide Vote by Mail  
4           list, not for the individual records.

5           THE COURT: Okay. Is it your intention to  
6           provide an Oath of Acquisition?

7           MR. GLEASON: I will. I absolutely will,  
8           Your Honor, if that's what it takes for me to get  
9           the records that I am lawfully entitled to.

10          THE COURT: I don't have the email, but it  
11          sounds like he said to you -- he being Dustin  
12          Chase?

13          MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

14          THE COURT: I'm sorry, I shouldn't use  
15          pronouns on the record.

16          Dustin Chase sent you an email and said send  
17          us the Oath of Acquisition. So if you intend to  
18          do that, then we're off and running in that area.

19          Is it your intention to do that?

20          MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

21          THE COURT: What kind of time frame are we  
22          looking at?

23          MR. GLEASON: I'll have it to him today.

24          THE COURT: Oh, okay.

25          What else are you asking for here today under

1 this accelerated hearing under 119, Mr. Gleason?

2 MR. GLEASON: The log -- the logs -- the logs  
3 for any of the electronic Vote by Mail Ballot  
4 requests that were made via the Supervisor of  
5 Elections website.

6 THE COURT: Electronic Vote by Mail requests  
7 is what you're looking for, the log?

8 MR. GLEASON: The logs and the records. All  
9 the logs and the records for that. And they're  
10 electronic records so they should be --

11 THE COURT: Ms. Vicari, what is your response  
12 to that? He wants the logs.

13 MS. VICARI: Yes. Your Honor, I wish there  
14 was an overhead projector I could use.

15 THE COURT: I'm sorry?

16 MS. VICARI: I said I wish there was an  
17 overhead projector I could use. Is there?

18 THE COURT: Yeah, I like visual aids, sure.

19 MS. VICARI: Is there one? Can you help?  
20 It's in here somewhere?

21 MS. HAAS: No, it's in the back.

22 MS. VICARI: Oh, I can --

23 THE COURT: We also have a time constraint.  
24 I've got until 10:30, so we have seven or eight  
25 minutes.

1 MS. VICARI: May I approach the projector?

2 THE COURT: Of course, yes. Yes.

3 MS. VICARI: So Your Honor, I'm bringing this  
4 just to clarify these are the exhibits that were  
5 attached, the request that was previously made was  
6 for. And you can see there with an indentation,  
7 "copies of any and all logs, lists, and/or  
8 documents of the Pinellas County voters who  
9 requested Vote by Mail Ballot be mailed to them  
10 for the August 20th primary election."

11 That was the request that was received.

12 And in response, Mr. Gleason was advised that  
13 he would be entitled to the records after he filed  
14 that oath. But then additionally, Mr. Chase  
15 explained that the request is extremely broad,  
16 that it would require 18,000 hours to compile  
17 these logs, that under Florida law, the Supervisor  
18 is entitled to charge a special service fee.

19 And later down, in 1, 2, 3, the fourth  
20 paragraph it says, "We're prepared to work with  
21 you to narrow the scope of your request to make it  
22 more manageable and cost effective. For instance,  
23 if there are specific types of logs or subsets of  
24 information you are most interested, please let us  
25 know. However, to precede, we invite you to

1           either narrow the scope of the request to reduce  
2           the estimated time, or we can provide a full cost  
3           estimate for processing the entire request as you  
4           currently stated."

5           Your Honor, Mr. Gleason did not respond to  
6           this email.

7           So there was an attempt made by the  
8           Supervisor of Elections to potentially narrow the  
9           response. They advised him there would be a  
10          special service fee, and then they heard nothing.  
11          And again, Your Honor, in order to receive these  
12          records he would first have to file this Oath of  
13          Acquisition, which he did do with the State in  
14          June. It's -- the same documents can be received  
15          from the State or from the Supervisor of Elections  
16          directly.

17          So you know, the ball is really in his court,  
18          Your Honor.

19          MR. GLEASON: Your Honor, that's not exact --

20          THE COURT: Well, hang on just a second. Are  
21          you finished?

22          MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

23          THE COURT: Yeah, I wasn't sure they were  
24          done, Mr. Gleason.

25          MR. GLEASON: Your Honor, that statement is

1 false.

2 THE COURT: Which statement was that?

3 MR. GLEASON: The one that she said that they  
4 never heard back from me. I actually had made  
5 numerous --

6 THE COURT: Do you have a copy of the email  
7 with you that you responded back?

8 MR. GLEASON: I actually have it on video  
9 because one of the requests that I made was a  
10 verbal request at the Supervisor of Elections'  
11 office.

12 THE COURT: Do you have a written email  
13 response?

14 MR. GLEASON: I have several where they say  
15 that they responded and they said that they would  
16 be providing me the information in a timely  
17 manner.

18 THE COURT: My question is, she's just shown  
19 me that email. Do you acknowledge that email that  
20 I just looked at?

21 MR. GLEASON: Yes.

22 THE COURT: All right. Did you respond to  
23 that email with an email?

24 MR. GLEASON: No, I did not.

25 THE COURT: Did you respond in a separate



1 writing to that?

2 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Do you have a copy of that  
4 separate writing?

5 MR. GLEASON: Not with me.

6 THE COURT: Do you acknowledge you got a  
7 separate written response? Because he just said  
8 he gave a separate written response to that email.

9 MS. VICARI: No, Your Honor, we're not aware  
10 of a separate written response.

11 THE COURT: You're not aware that you got a  
12 separate written response from Mr. Gleason?

13 MS. VICARI: No.

14 THE COURT: Do you have a copy of the written  
15 response?

16 MR. GLEASON: Not with me, Your Honor. I can  
17 produce it.

18 THE COURT: But you don't have an e-mail  
19 response?

20 MR. GLEASON: No.

21 THE COURT: Do you use written email in your  
22 written communication?

23 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: As a matter of course? And  
25 again, I'm not trying to invade your privacy here.

1 All right. Well, it seems to me at this  
2 point, I think I agree with counsel. I think the  
3 ball is in your court. She just showed me the  
4 email. You're not showing me a response to it.  
5 An email is out there.

6 I didn't see a deadline on the email. Is  
7 there a cutoff time?

8 MS. VICARI: It says, "If the response is not  
9 received within 30 days of the correspondence, we  
10 will consider this closed."

11 THE COURT: And when was that?

12 MS. VICARI: Thursday, July 25th, 2024.

13 THE COURT: Any reason we can't give him a  
14 30-day extension at this point of time?

15 MS. VICARI: No, Your Honor, we could agree  
16 to that.

17 THE COURT: You will accept that,  
18 Mr. Gleason?

19 MR. GLEASON: I will accept it. Here's the  
20 issue --

21 THE COURT: I've got to stay on my point and  
22 then I'll go to the issue you're raising.

23 Defendants are willing to extend that 30 days  
24 they put in that email to give you 30 days to  
25 respond back with an email. Does that work for

1           you at this point?

2           MR. GLEASON: I'll have it to them today.

3           THE COURT: Okay, but within 30 days.

4           So is that an agreement?

5           MR. GLEASON: That's fine, Your Honor.

6           THE COURT: I want the record to reflect the  
7 parties have a stipulation. It's on the record  
8 and it's real clear, okay?

9           MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

10          THE COURT: So we got that.

11          Then you said something about another issue,  
12 Mr. Gleason. And we're getting ready to run out  
13 of time.

14          MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor, here's the  
15 issue. I do actually have a verbal request for  
16 that same information that I specified in the  
17 email, and I specified for that verbally and I  
18 have --

19          THE COURT: Who did you speak with?

20          MR. GLEASON: One of the -- Ashley. Ashley  
21 from the Supervisor of Elections' office. And I  
22 have it right here.

23          THE COURT: Is that it?

24          MS. VICARI: Your Honor, that is the first --

25          MR. GLEASON: She sent me an email confirming

1           that.

2           MS. VICARI: I don't know who Ashley is. Can  
3 he provide more information? Dates? Times? Who  
4 is Ashley. Did Ashley know she was being  
5 recorded?

6           THE COURT: I think for purposes of these  
7 proceedings -- now if there is a lawsuit and we're  
8 going to go ahead and extend the 30 days to get  
9 the response, I think probably bringing documents  
10 to court is going to work best down the road as  
11 opposed to he said/she said. I'm not trying to  
12 take away that that happened. I'm not saying it  
13 didn't. But I think it would be a lot easier to  
14 get everything in writing as the litigation  
15 progresses and plays out its course.

16           So right now I'm going to leave it to  
17 Mr. Gleason is going to respond back to that  
18 email. He has 30 days to do that. Otherwise,  
19 you're going to assume it's moot at that point.

20           MS. VICARI: Yes, Your Honor.

21           THE COURT: And then we go from there.

22           I don't know who is going to be handling this  
23 case. I was called in at the last minute to see  
24 if I was available. I'm actually a retired judge  
25 on senior duty. So I don't know actually who this

1 case is going to be assigned to in the normal  
2 course of business, to give you a heads-up.

3 I will give a shout-out to Mr. Williford,  
4 staff attorney, very responsive, and did a lot of  
5 work on the case, got me educated a whole lot. I  
6 still have a long way to go. Don't we all?

7 So I'm going to leave it at that for the  
8 accelerated hearing. He is going to give you the  
9 response and then you-all can do the email back  
10 and forth to document everything.

11 Are you okay using email going forward?

12 MR. GLEASON: I prefer that.

13 THE COURT: Everything is documented when you  
14 come to court. Hopefully you don't have to keep  
15 coming to court, but as things unfold --

16 MR. GLEASON: Your Honor, this issue was  
17 filed because I was planning on doing a challenge  
18 of the election because of the multiple issues  
19 that I observed.

20 THE COURT: When you say "election," which  
21 election are you talking about?

22 MR. GLEASON: August 20th election.

23 THE COURT: The one that just happened?

24 MR. GLEASON: Yes.

25 THE COURT: When was the Complaint filed?

1 MR. GLEASON: It was filed on the day of the  
2 election.

3 THE COURT: Oh, okay.

4 MR. GLEASON: Based on massive issues that  
5 were identified that called into question the  
6 legality of many -- actually all of the Mail-in  
7 Ballots.

8 THE COURT: What would you like me to do  
9 right now in this accelerated hearing?

10 MR. GLEASON: I would like you to issue an  
11 Order to the defendants that they need to  
12 immediately provide me with the requested  
13 information once they have that signed statement  
14 from me.

15 THE COURT: I'm going to let that play out  
16 because I don't know what your response is going  
17 to be.

18 MR. GLEASON: I'm telling you right now, Your  
19 Honor, I'll send it and have it filed today.

20 THE COURT: And we can set another hearing as  
21 this case unfolds. You might be seeking to put  
22 out your own request for documents, set  
23 depositions, interrogatories.

24 I don't issue subpoenas. It comes from the  
25 clerk's office. If you want a subpoena or written

1 request to documents, you're entitled to all those  
2 things. I know you told me you're not a lawyer,  
3 but you're kind of held to the same rules that  
4 apply in discovery. But you're entitled to a  
5 request for production, interrogatories,  
6 depositions, the whole gambit of discovery in the  
7 litigation case.

8 So the case is still in the litigation mode.  
9 They apparently just got served. They've got so  
10 many days to give a response. And if you-all need  
11 to set hearings for the Court, then you can set  
12 hearings.

13 Emergency hearings are fairly stringent. The  
14 requirements for emergency hearings are -- it's  
15 pretty tough to get an emergency hearing.  
16 Expedited hearings is just a function of usually  
17 what judge and what's calendared, what's  
18 available.

19 Right now I'm going to leave it at that at  
20 the accelerated hearing. I'm going to wait for  
21 the Supervisor of Elections' Office to get your  
22 response and go from there. I know that's not all  
23 you're asking for here this morning, but that's  
24 about the best I can do right now given the time  
25 constraints.

1 MS. VICARI: Your Honor, just briefly, so  
2 within the Complaint, as I stated, there were two  
3 requests. We talked about the second request that  
4 was via email.

5 Is the Court going to address the other  
6 records request that's at Paragraphs 14 and 15  
7 which was alleged to be a verbal request? And if  
8 so, Your Honor, we do have body cam footage of the  
9 request being made, body cam of the sheriff's  
10 office who was in the logic and accuracy testing  
11 room. It is a very short, verification of records  
12 from the sheriff's office to authenticate the  
13 video.

14 THE COURT: Let me ask this. Can you put  
15 those requests in writing and resubmit them?

16 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Can you do that?

18 MR. GLEASON: Yes.

19 THE COURT: That way we don't have to start  
20 bringing in all this stuff --

21 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right. You can do that  
23 within the 30-day period?

24 MR. GLEASON: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Gleason is going to resubmit



1           it and put it all in writing, that way everything  
2           is documented and we don't have a lot of video and  
3           body cams and everything else you were talking  
4           about.

5           Sorry to have to cut you short, but I've got  
6           to keep the train kind of running here.

7           Before we leave, Mr. Gleason, anything else?

8           MR. GLEASON: No.

9           THE COURT: Obviously you put a whole lot of  
10          time and effort in this case, and I appreciate it  
11          and so has the defense, and Mr. Williford, our  
12          staff attorney, he knows.

13          Stay safe, stay healthy and I don't know who  
14          is going to be wearing the robe next time you  
15          come, but it probably won't be me. And you all  
16          will probably be happy about that.

17          Happy Labor Day weekend.

18          (The Proceedings concluded at 10:34 a.m.)

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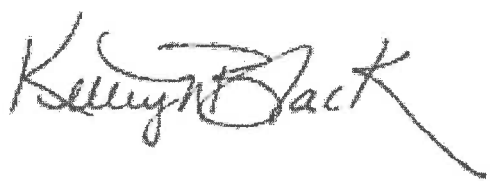
CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF PINELLAS

I, KELLEY N. BLACK, RPR, FPR-C, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the Proceedings held before The Honorable Peter Ramsberger; and that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of my stenographic notes.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney, or counsel of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 31st day of August, 2024, at Pinellas County, Florida.



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Kelley N. Black, RPR

<b>1</b>	<p><b>acknowledge</b> 10:2 23:19 24:6</p> <p><b>Acquisition</b> 15:21,22 16:6,13 18:7,23 19:2,6,17 22:13</p> <p><b>Act</b> 6:11</p> <p><b>active</b> 5:21</p> <p><b>additionally</b> 21:14</p> <p><b>address</b> 15:8 31:5</p> <p><b>Administrative</b> 14:19</p> <p><b>advised</b> 21:12 22:9</p> <p><b>Affirmation</b> 12:9,12,24 15:7,19</p> <p><b>agree</b> 25:2,15</p> <p><b>agreement</b> 26:4</p> <p><b>agrees</b> 12:24</p> <p><b>ahead</b> 27:8</p> <p><b>aids</b> 20:18</p> <p><b>alleged</b> 31:7</p> <p><b>alleging</b> 10:11</p> <p><b>and/or</b> 21:7</p> <p><b>apologize</b> 15:23</p> <p><b>apparently</b> 15:16 30:9</p> <p><b>apply</b> 30:4</p> <p><b>approach</b> 21:1</p> <p><b>appropriately</b> 10:12 11:12</p> <p><b>area</b> 19:18</p> <p><b>argument</b> 11:11</p> <p><b>Ashley</b> 26:20 27:2,4</p> <p><b>assigned</b> 28:1</p> <p><b>assume</b> 27:19</p> <p><b>assured</b> 6:14</p> <p><b>attached</b> 11:3,10 14:8 16:2 18:19,25 21:5</p> <p><b>attempt</b> 22:7</p> <p><b>attention</b> 6:8</p> <p><b>attorney</b> 6:9 7:11,13,16</p>	<p>8:11 28:4 32:12</p> <p><b>audit</b> 9:18</p> <p><b>August</b> 9:13 21:10 28:22</p> <p><b>authenticate</b> 31:12</p> <p><b>aware</b> 24:9,11</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>B</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>back</b> 8:25 9:4 13:8 14:6 18:7 20:21 23:4,7 25:25 27:17 28:9</p> <p><b>ball</b> 22:17 25:3</p> <p><b>Ballot</b> 12:16 13:13,17 16:5,12,24 18:22 20:3 21:9</p> <p><b>Ballots</b> 9:19 13:15 17:8,9, 11 29:7</p> <p><b>Band-aid</b> 7:1 8:18</p> <p><b>Based</b> 29:4</p> <p><b>benefit</b> 17:18</p> <p><b>bit</b> 9:15</p> <p><b>body</b> 31:8,9 32:3</p> <p><b>briefly</b> 31:1</p> <p><b>bringing</b> 21:3 27:9 31:20</p> <p><b>broad</b> 13:1 21:15</p> <p><b>brought</b> 6:8</p> <p><b>business</b> 28:2</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>C</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>calendared</b> 30:17</p> <p><b>called</b> 8:16 27:23 29:5</p> <p><b>cam</b> 31:8,9</p> <p><b>campaign</b> 17:19</p> <p><b>cams</b> 32:3</p> <p><b>candidate</b> 12:20 16:4,11, 18,20 18:21</p> <p><b>candidates</b> 17:14</p> <p><b>case</b> 3:11,12 4:3 5:20,21 8:10 18:2 27:23 28:1,5 29:21 30:7,8 32:10</p>	<p><b>category</b> 12:19</p> <p><b>chain</b> 9:18 13:16</p> <p><b>chair</b> 4:13</p> <p><b>challenge</b> 11:21 28:17</p> <p><b>challenges</b> 11:22</p> <p><b>chance</b> 6:21 7:3</p> <p><b>Chapter</b> 12:18</p> <p><b>charge</b> 13:7 14:23 15:5 21:18</p> <p><b>charges</b> 14:22</p> <p><b>Chase</b> 4:4,25 16:1,10 19:12,16 21:14</p> <p><b>Chase'</b> 5:1</p> <p><b>chat</b> 7:5 8:17</p> <p><b>Christopher</b> 3:16,18</p> <p><b>Circuit</b> 3:3</p> <p><b>clarify</b> 21:4</p> <p><b>clear</b> 17:12 26:8</p> <p><b>clerk's</b> 29:25</p> <p><b>closed</b> 25:10</p> <p><b>Code</b> 14:19</p> <p><b>collectively</b> 4:3</p> <p><b>communicate</b> 6:22</p> <p><b>communication</b> 24:22</p> <p><b>compile</b> 21:16</p> <p><b>Complaint</b> 5:10,22,23 9:24 10:9,10,14,21,22,23 11:4,19 14:9 16:3 17:20 18:19,20 19:1 28:25 31:2</p> <p><b>compliance</b> 6:18</p> <p><b>complied</b> 15:17</p> <p><b>complying</b> 10:6</p> <p><b>concealed</b> 17:17</p> <p><b>concluded</b> 32:18</p> <p><b>conduct</b> 9:12</p> <p><b>confidential</b> 8:15 12:14, 18,25</p> <p><b>confidentiality</b> 15:7,18</p>
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