JEFF FINE

Clerk of the Superior Court By Stephanie Myers, Deputy Date 12/09/2022 Time 16:50:31

Description Amount

ELECTION CONTEST: NEW 333.00

TUTAL AMOUNT

333.00

Receipt# 29048582

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Attorneys for Plaintiff-Contestant

# IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

Kari Lake,

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Contestant/Plaintiff,

V.

Case No. CV 2022-095403

Katie Hobbs, personally as Contestee and in her official capacity as Secretary of State; Stephen Richer in his official capacity as Maricopa County Recorder; Bill Gates, Clint Hickman, Jack Sellers, Thomas Galvin, and Steve Gallardo, in their official capacities as members of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors; Scott Jarrett, in his official capacity as Maricopa County Director of Elections; and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT IN SPECIAL ACTION AND VERIFIED STATEMENT OF ELECTION CONTEST PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 16-672

### **SUMMARY OF CASE**

- 1. The eyes of the Country are on Arizona. On November 30, 2022, Rasmussen Reports published a poll of likely U.S. voters asking about the Election Day problems with vote tabulation in Maricopa County. This poll asked whether responding voters agreed or disagreed with Contestant Kari Lake's statement calling the election "botched" and stating, "This isn't about Republicans or Democrats. This is about our sacred right to vote, a right that many voters were, sadly, deprived of on [Election Day], November 8th." The results of that poll are stunning. Seventy-two percent (72%) of Likely Voters said they agree with Lake's statement, including 45% who Strongly Agree.
- 2. The number of illegal votes cast in Arizona's general election on November 8, 2022, far exceeds the 17,117 vote margin between Arizona Republican gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake and Democrat gubernatorial candidate Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, certified at the official state canvass on December 5, 2022. Witnesses who were present at the Maricopa County Tabulation and Election Center ("MCTEC"), Runbeck Election Services ("Runbeck"), and a multitude of Maricopa County vote centers, as well as other facts meticulously gathered, show hundreds of thousands of illegal ballots infected the election in Maricopa County.
- 3. In addition, on Election Day, thousands of Republican voters were disenfranchised as a result of Maricopa County election officials' misconduct in connection with the widespread tabulator or printer failures at 59% of the 223 vote centers in Maricopa County.

- 4. These facts preclude Arizona's vote totals canvassed on December 5, 2022, from being used to determine the next governor of Arizona. In *Findley v. Sorenson*, the Arizona Supreme Court held that mistakes, omissions, and irregularities in the conduct of an election may void it if they "affect the result, or at least render it uncertain." 35 Ariz. 265, 269 (1929).
- 5. But this case is about more than just those bad acts. Rampant and clear violations of federal and state law have become pervasive at the Secretary of State level under Secretary Hobbs and in the Maricopa County Recorder and Elections Department. This case is about restoring trust in the election process—a trust that Maricopa County election officials and Hobbs have shattered. The judicial system is now the only vehicle by which that trust can be restored.
- 6. Just a few days ago, the public learned Secretary Hobbs and Maricopa County election officials, including Recorder Stephen Richer, participated in an unconstitutional government censorship operation using an Election Misinformation Reporting Portal created by the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") and the Cybersecurity and Information Security Agency ("CISA"). State and local election officials sent censorship requests to the Election Misinformation Reporting Portal, which the federal government, in partnership with social media companies and other platforms like Twitter and Facebook, would then remove speech they did not like from public view. Hobbs, Richer, and others participated in this secret censorship operation.
- 7. Their actions were per se violations of Arizona citizens' free speech rights under the United States Constitution and the Arizona State Constitution. These actions,

and others, also constituted election "misconduct" in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1).

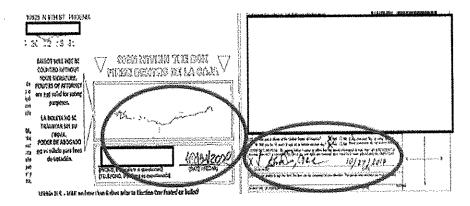
- 8. There is much more. The debacle that occurred in Maricopa County on November 8, 2022 ("Election Day") was "chaos" as Maricopa County's Board of Supervisors Chairman Bill Gates admitted on live TV during a press conference held shortly after Election Day. Republicans vote at a 3:1 ratio over Democrats on Election Day and were thus disproportionately and adversely affected.
- 9. The tabulators' rejection of thousands of ballots set off a domino chain of electoral improprieties, rampant administrative chaos and confusion, lengthy delays at polling sites, and ultimately the prevention of qualified voters from having their votes counted. Video footage, first-hand accounts, and expert testimony directly contradict Maricopa County officials' public statements deliberately attempting to downplay these events. Such acts, along with the government censorship programs described above in which Defendants Hobbs and Richer participated, only serve to amplify Americans' deepening distrust in our election system.
- 10. The evidence, including a detailed sworn declaration by a cyber expert who, among other things, spent nine years testing electronic voting machines on behalf of the same voting system testing lab ("VSTL") that certified the machines in Maricopa, shows that the machine failures Arizona voters experienced in Maricopa County on Election Day could not have occurred absent intentional misconduct.
- 11. Thousands of voters, disproportionately Republican, gave up voting due to the long wait times or simply avoided the polls after seeing the chaos reported on the

news. The expert evidence shows conservatively that at least between 15,603 and 29,257 Republican voters were disenfranchised from voting as a direct consequence of the voting machine failures in Maricopa.

- 12. In addition, it is well known that mail-in ballots are one of the voting methods most vulnerable to election fraud. After the contested 2000 Presidential election, the bipartisan Jimmy Carter-James Baker commission identified absentee ballots as "the largest source of potential voter fraud." BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN U.S. ELECTIONS: REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM, at 46 (Sept. 2005). In the 2022 general election, over 1.3 million ballots were cast through the mail-in vote or placed in drop boxes in Maricopa County.
- 13. Testimony by whistleblowers and witnesses with first-hand knowledge shows that Maricopa County officials violated Arizona chain of custody laws for hundreds of thousands of these mail-in ballots. These chain of custody laws are a critical deterrent to keep illegal mail-in votes from infecting the election. With no chain of custody, there is no way to tell whether over 300,000 ballots cast in Maricopa County are legal ballots.
- 14. Maricopa County officials also permitted the counting of tens of thousands of mail-in and drop box ballots that did not satisfy signature verification requirements. Signature verification, whereby the signature on the ballot envelope is compared to the voter's signature on file to help confirm that the person who completed the ballot is actually the voter, is one of the most important methods of preventing mail-in ballot fraud. If the signature associated with the ballot does not match the signature on file with

the government, the ballot cannot be counted unless the signature mismatch is properly cured.

15. Below is an example of a 2020 ballot envelope submitted in Maricopa County with the ballot signature shown on the left and official file signature of the voter shown on the right.



16. The fact that these two signatures do not match is clear even from a cursory glance. Maricopa County election officials allowed tens of thousands of ballots with signature mismatches like this one to be counted in 2020. They did the same thing in the 2022 general election.

17. The official election results certified by Secretary of State Katie Hobbs in the marquee race at the top of the ballot, a contest for the governorship between Hobbs herself and Kari Lake, showed a difference in votes between the two candidates of approximately 0.67% (17,117 votes out of about 2,559,485 cast). The separation of votes between Hobbs and Lake is far narrower than the number of presumptively illegal and illegally cast ballots in Arizona.

18. The fact that 72% of voters don't believe this election can be trusted is a wakeup call. The Election Day debacle, together with other illegal and improper procedures through which the election was administered, preclude the Defendants in this action from certifying Hobbs as the winner of the election.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 19. This Court has jurisdiction to hear Contestant's claims pursuant to Article 6, § 14 of the Arizona Constitution, A.R.S. § 16-672, and Arizona Rule of Procedure for Special Actions 3.
- 20. Under the doctrine of concurrent jurisdiction, this Court has jurisdiction to resolve claims under the federal Constitution and under federal election law.
- 21. Venue is proper in Maricopa County for election contests pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-672(B).
- 22. Venue is proper in Maricopa County pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-401, where defendants reside.

#### **PARTIES**

- 23. Plaintiff/Contestant Kari Lake was a candidate for the office of Governor of Arizona in the election held on November 8, 2022 ("Election Day"). Lake is also an elector of the State of Arizona and of Maricopa County. She resides in Arizona and in Maricopa County.
- 24. Defendant/Contestee Katie Hobbs is the Secretary of State of Arizona, and candidate for the office of Governor of Arizona in the election held on November 8, 2022.

- 25. Defendant Stephen Richer is the Recorder of Maricopa County and is named in this action in his official capacity only. Defendant Richer is an officer in charge of elections in Maricopa County. The County Recorder is an "officer" within the meaning of A.R.S. § 39-121.01(A)(1).
- 26. Defendant Scott Jarrett is the Director of Elections for Election Day and Emergency Voting in Maricopa County and is named in this action in his official capacity only. Director Jarrett is an "officer" within the meaning of A.R.S. § 39-121.01(A)(1).
- 27. Defendants Bill Gates, Clint Hickman, Jack Sellers, Thomas Galvin, and Steve Gallardo are sued in their official capacities as members of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors ("Maricopa Board").
- 28. Under A.R.S. § 16-452 (A), the Maricopa Board is vested with the authority to:
  - "[e]stablish, abolish and change election precincts, appoint inspectors and judges
    of elections, canvass election returns, declare the result and issue certificates
    thereof..."
  - "[a]dopt provisions necessary to preserve the health of the county, and provide for the expenses thereof";
  - "[m]ake and enforce necessary rules and regulations for the government of its body, the preservation of order and the transaction of business."
- 29. Defendant Maricopa County is a political subdivision of the State of Arizona. Maricopa County is charged by law with various duties under the Public Records Act and charged by law with conducting elections within its jurisdictional boundaries, including

through its Board of Supervisors, hiring and training permanent and temporary employees to perform vital election related functions, including verifying ballot envelope signatures. See A.R.S. §§ 11-251(3) and (30), 16-531, and 16-532; Elections Procedure Manual at pp. 68–69. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors is a "public body" within the meaning of A.R.S. § 39-121.01(A)(2).

30. The particular grounds of this election contest are misconduct on the part of election board and members thereof in Maricopa County, and on the part of officers participating in the canvass of votes for the election of Governor of Arizona; illegal votes; and that by reason of erroneous count of votes the person declared elected, Hobbs, did not in fact receive the highest number of votes for the office of Governor of Arizona. Contestant additionally alleges that the conduct of the 2022 general election violated her right to vote under the United States Constitution and the Arizona Constitution.

### APPLICABLE LEGAL PRINCIPLES

31. The Arizona Constitution, Art. 2, § 21, provides that that "elections shall be free and equal" and that "no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage." The right to a free and equal election "is implicated when votes are not properly counted." *Chavez v. Brewer*, 222 Ariz. 309, 320, 214 P.3d 397, 408 (Ct. App. 2009). "Election laws play an important role in protecting the integrity of the electoral process," and public officials may not "in the middle of an election, change the law based on their own perceptions of what they think it should be," because this would "undermine public confidence in our democratic system

and destroy the integrity of the electoral process." *Ariz. Pub. Integrity All. V. Fontes*, 250 Ariz. 58, 61, 475 P.3d 303, 306 (2020).

- 32. Voting is a right "of the most fundamental significance under our constitutional structure." *Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428, 433 (1992) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted). "No right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which, as good citizens, we must live. Other rights, even the most basic, are illusory if the right to vote is undermined." *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1, 17 (1964). States may not, by arbitrary action or other unreasonable impairment, burden a citizen's right to vote. *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 208 (1962). "Since the right to exercise the franchise in a free and unimpaired manner is preservative of other basic civil and political rights, any alleged infringement of the right of citizens to vote must be carefully and meticulously scrutinized." *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 562 (1964).
- 33. The right to vote requires states to adopt methods of voting, vote collection, vote counting, and vote tallying that ensure fair, accurate, and secure counting of all legal ballots and exclude any attempt to change the total results reported to differ from the true sum of the votes legally cast. The fundamental right to vote is "the right of qualified voters within a state to cast their ballots and have them counted." *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 315 (1941). It necessarily encompasses the right to have all votes counted accurately. "Every voter's vote is entitled to be counted once. It must be correctly counted and reported." *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368, 380 (1963).

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- 34. The significance of a vote is inherently comparative. The value of a vote is destroyed by the introduction of illegal votes just as much as if the legal vote itself was wrongfully prevented. A state's entire system of collecting, counting, and tallying votes must prevent improper inflation or reduction of reported vote totals. "[T]he right of suffrage can be denied by a debasement or dilution of the weight of a citizen's vote just as effectively as by wholly prohibiting the free exercise of the franchise." *Reynolds*, 377 U.S. at 555. See also *United States v. Saylor*, 322 U.S. 385, 386 (1944) (Constitution grants voters "the right and privilege . . . to have their expressions of choice given full value and effect by not having their votes impaired, lessened, diminished, diluted and destroyed by fictitious ballots fraudulently cast and counted, recorded, returned, and certified.").
- 35. "[E]lection statutes are mandatory, not 'advisory,' or else they would not be law at all. If a statute expressly provides that non-compliance invalidates the vote, then the vote is invalid. If the statute does not have such a provision, non-compliance may or may not invalidate the vote depending on its effect." *Miller v. Picacho Elementary Sch. Dist. No. 33*, 179 Ariz. 178, 180, 877 P.2d 277, 279 (1994). The electoral processes established in the Arizona Elections Procedures Manual, once adopted according to the statutory process, have "the force of law." *Ariz. Pub. Integrity All.*, 250 Ariz. At 63.

### GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

Maricopa County's Outsized Ability to Dictate the Outcome of the Arizona Governor's Race

- 36. Maricopa County ("Maricopa") is the fourth largest county in the United States. Approximately 60% of the 2,592,313 votes cast in the 2022 Arizona general election came from Maricopa. Of that figure, Maricopa reported that approximately 248,000 votes were cast on Election Day, November 8, 2022, by in-person votes at one of Maricopa's 223 vote centers. Maricopa reported that more than 1.3 million early ballots were returned via drop box or through the U.S. Postal Service.
- 37. According to figures published by Maricopa County, Lake received 752,714 votes in Maricopa County, while Hobbs received 790,352 votes in Maricopa County. The difference between Hobbs and Lake in Maricopa County, 37,638 votes, is larger than the difference between the two candidates statewide, which was only 17,177 votes.
- 38. Maricopa residents voted in the 2022 general election through several methods.
- 39. Some residents voted using mail-in ballots. Mail-in ballots are sent out by a county contractor, Runbeck Election Services ("Runbeck"). Runbeck prints the name and address of the voter on an outer mailing envelope. The outer mailing envelope contains a packet including a ballot and a return ballot affidavit envelope. The voter completes the ballots, seals it inside the return envelope, and signs the return envelope. By signing the return envelope, the voter declares under penalty of perjury that he or she is the actual voter of the ballot contained in the envelope. A voter can return the mail-in ballot to Maricopa by United States Postal Service.
- 40. A voter can also drop off a mail-in ballot at an official Maricopa ballot drop box.

- 41. Maricopa voters can also vote early in-person at a vote center. To do so, the voter must provide identification. Then the voter's ballot is printed on a ballot on-demand printer. The voter completes the ballot, seals it inside a white affidavit envelope, signs the envelope, and deposits it in a drop box inside the vote center.
- 42. Maricopa County voters can also vote in-person on Election Day in the conventional, traditional manner, by completing a ballot at a vote center operated by Maricopa County.
- 43. Ballots returned to Maricopa County by US Postal mail or at a ballot drop box go through a multi-step process prior to tabulation.
  - a. Ballots deposited in drop boxes are retrieved daily by ballot couriers. The
    ballots are placed in a transport container, sealed, and then transported to
    MCTEC, where they are counted, documented, sorted and placed in bins.
    This process, count, audit and chain of custody must be recorded on Early
    Voting Ballot Transport Statement Forms.
  - b. The bins are then transported to Runbeck by a Maricopa County driver.

    Typically, on route to Runbeck, the County driver stops at the USPS facility in Phoenix to pick up mail-in ballots. Upon arrival at Runbeck, the ballots are transferred to the custody of Runbeck employees and must be recorded on Inbound Receipt of Delivery chain of custody forms.
  - c. At Runbeck, the ballot envelopes are scanned, and the signature images are captured for electronic signature verification.

- d. The scanned ballot envelope signatures are then electronically transmitted back to MCTEC, where each ballot signature is reviewed and compared with the voter's control signature on file with Maricopa County. Signatures that matched are approved, meaning those voters' ballots are cleared for tabulation.
- e. Maricopa County then notifies Runbeck which signatures are approved.

  Runbeck collects the ballot envelopes corresponding to the approved signatures and packages them for transportation back to MCTEC.
- f. At MCTEC, the approved ballot envelopes are opened, the ballots removed, and the ballots eventually tabulated by feeding them into electronic Tabulation equipment.

# Tens of Thousands of Ballots with Mismatched Signatures Were Illegally Counted In Violation Of Arizona Law

- 44. A Maricopa County voter who chooses to cast an early ballot must enclose the ballot in an envelope containing a sworn affidavit, signed by the voter, that certifies the voter's qualifications and personal signature affixation, and affirms his or her understanding of the criminal prohibition against casting multiple ballots in the same election. See A.R.S. § 16-547(A).
- 45. Upon receipt of a returned early ballot envelope, the County Recorder or the Recorder's designee must "compare the signatures thereon with the signature of the elector on the elector's registration record." A.R.S. § 16-550(A). If "the signatures correspond," the early ballot is processed and tabulated. *Id.* If "the signature is

<sup>3</sup> See Declaration of Shelby Busch attached as Ex. 12 to the Declaration of Kurt Olsen.

<sup>1</sup> See also Attorney General Mark Brnovich's report to Honorable Karen Fann dated

April 6, 2022 ("Brnovich Report") at p. 7, attached as Ex. 5, Olsen Decl.

inconsistent with the elector's signature on the elector's registration record," then the early ballot is invalid and cannot be tabulated, unless the putative voter cures the signature discrepancy within five business days of an election for federal office (or the third business day after any other election). *Id*.<sup>1</sup>

- 46. After a lengthy investigation into "election failures and potential misconduct that occurred in 2020," Attorney General Brnovich issued a report on April 6, 2022 making numerous findings including that "the early ballot affidavit signature verification system in Arizona, and particularly when applied to Maricopa County, may be insufficient to guard against abuse." The Attorney General stated that "[r]equiring a match between the signature on the ballot affidavit and the signature on file with the State is currently the most important election integrity measure when it comes to early ballots."<sup>2</sup>
- 47. Steve Robinson and Shelby Busch co-founded We the People AZ Alliance ("WPAA"), an organization whose purpose is to provide oversight of and transparency for government to the public.<sup>3</sup> WPAA employs a robust public records department and a highly skilled staff of data analysts, cybersecurity experts and an investigative team. *Id.* at ¶¶ 4-5.
- 48. On April 15, 2021, WPAA was appointed by Former Secretary of State and Senate Liaison, Ken Bennett, as Deputy Senate Liaisons to the 2020 Senate Election

Audit. Id. ¶ 6. After the close of that audit, WPAA continued investigating election related issues in Arizona.

- 49. Subsequently, WPAA's data analysts confirmed multiple instances of voters reporting that their voter record had been changed or that for some unknown reason to them they were registered to vote, unsolicited. WPAA then contacted Senator Fann on June 20, 2022 and presented those findings. Senator Fann provided WPAA access to the Maricopa County external drive that the Arizona Senate had previously received from Maricopa County under subpoena and court order in connection with the 2020 Senate Election Audit to allow WPAA to evaluate issues regarding the validity of voters, their corresponding signatures and any potential voter registrations contained on this external drive.
- 50. Upon examining the hard drive, WPAA's Data Director located multiple hidden files and a cross-reference between ballot envelopes and registration forms that was provided by the county. WPAA discovered multiple irregularities in the voter registration data contained on the hard drive. A group of Senators then approved a full-scale investigation of the voter signatures on the ballot envelopes from the 2020 general election using actual control signatures found on the hard drive for comparison, which were also apparently used by Maricopa County for signature verification. *Id.* at ¶¶ 10-12
- 51. A signature review of 230,339 of the 1.9 million ballot envelopes (12.12% of the total) using the same control signatures available to Maricopa County revealed the following stunning discrepancies:

- a. 18,022 signatures had egregious mismatches to the reference signatures meaning the mismatch was plainly seen at first glance. This equates to 8.5% of the ballot envelopes reviewed meaning that of the 1.9 million 2020 ballot envelopes, approximately 156,000 ballot envelopes were likely to have egregious signature mismatches.
- b. 19,631 signatures failed the Arizona Secretary of State standards which means that of the 1.9 million 2020 ballot envelopes, approximately 9.1% or 165,600 ballots are likely to fail the Arizona Secretary of State standards.
- 52. By comparison, in the 2020 election, Maricopa rejected *just 587 ballots* for mismatched signatures. Brnovich Report at 5.
- 53. WPAA then compared names associated with the signatures of the mismatched voters from 2020 against the record of voters who cast ballots in the 2022 election less the later early ballots for which data was not available. Even though the full 2022 voter file was not available:
  - a. 4,328 of the *same names* associated with 18,022 egregious signature mismatches from 2020 voted again in 2022 general election.
  - b. 5,289 of the *same names* associated with 19,631 failed Arizona signature standards mismatches from 2020 voted again in the 2022 general election.
- 54. For the 2022 general election, there were approximately 32 workers involved in Maricopa County's signature verification and signature curing process. Three signature verification workers have signed sworn declarations concerning their

experience at Maricopa County during the 2022 general election.<sup>4</sup> These three witnesses testified that their and their co-workers' rejection rates while verifying signatures ranged from 35-40% (Onigkeit Decl. ¶¶ 19-22), 15%-30% (Myers Decl. at ¶¶ 18, 21), to 35%-40% (Nystrom Decl. ¶ 13). These figures are consistent with the rejection rate of WPAA discussed above equating to tens of thousands of illegal ballots being counted.

- 55. Each of these witnesses testified to deep flaws in the ballot signature verification and/or curing process employed by Maricopa County.
- 56. Jacqueline Onigkeit reviewed approximately 42,500 ballots and rejected about 13,000 to 15,000 of them, with rejection rates in the 25% 40% range. Her coworkers complained of similar rejection rates. Onigkeit Decl. ¶¶ 23, 25.
- 57. Andy Myers described Maricopa's process for signature verification and curing:

In my room we had a white board that Michelle would update with the number of ballots to be verified that day. Throughout the day Michelle would update the progress the people were making in verifying signatures. The math never added up. Typically, we were processing about 60,000 signatures a day. I would hear that people were rejecting 20-30% which means I would expect to see 12,000 to 15,000 ballots in my pile for curing the next day. However, I would consistently see every morning only about 1000 envelopes to be cured. We typically saw about one tenth of the rejected ballots we were told we would see.

Andrew, one of the signature reviewers, would tell me every day that I was going to get crushed the next day because he was excepting (rejecting) a "ton" of bad signatures. However, we never saw a correlation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Declaration of Andrew Myers ("Myers Decl."), Declaration of Yvonne Nystrom ("Nystrom Decl."), and Declaration of Jacqueline Onigkeit (Onigkeit Decl.") attached as Exs. 6, 7, and 8, respectively, to the Olsen Decl.

The most likely explanation for this discrepancy is that the level 2 managers who re-reviewed the rejections of the level 1 workers were reversing and approving signatures that the level 1 workers excepted and rejected. This seems to me to be the more likely explanation. If this is the case, then the level 2 managers were changing about 90% of the rejected signatures to accepted.

Myers Decl. ¶¶ 21-23 (emphasis added).

- 58. Most of the work of these level 2 managers was not subject to the accountability of observers, but their reversal of rejected ballots should be properly recorded in the computer records of the EVRT program. Nystrom Decl. ¶ 16.
- 59. Maricopa's signature verification managers had a practice of sending already rejected ballots back through the process with the implication that they wanted those ballots approved:

On the last day of work, November 15, we were asked by manager Celia to go through perhaps 5,000 to 7,000 ballots, that had already been rejected at levels 1, 2 and 3. We were asked to go to the SHELL program and to only find one signature that matched the green envelope, even if all other signatures in the program did not match the green envelope. The implication from Celia is that was desperate to get the work complete and that she wanted the ballots approved. These 5,000 to 7,000 ballots had already been through the full level 1, 2, and 3 process and been rejected. Therefore, I do not know why [we were] going through them again, and that is why it seemed that Celia wanted them approved."

Nystrom Decl. ¶ 21.

- 60. This practice of pushing rejected ballots back through the system with the hope that they would be un-rejected was also attested by Andy Myers:
  - When the excepted numbers grew the managers would resend those excepted signatures back out into the general pool, hoping that someone would approve those same signatures, which would thereby reduce the excepted signature load.

Myers Decl. ¶ 11.

61. Maricopa permitted any signature reviewer to un-reject ballots without accountability using curing stickers. Workers were able to obtain massive amounts of these stickers and use them to cure ballots without oversight. Onigkeit explained:

In order to perform the curing process, we were given a batch of stickers to place on a ballot, which included stickers with abbreviations. Some, but not all, of the ballot stickers and abbreviations were as follows: "VER" meant that we verified the voter's information, and their ballot was approved to be counted, "WV" meant that a voter did not want to verify their ballot over the phone, and "LM" meant that we called the voter and left a message.

One of the problems with the stickers was that nothing prevented a level 1, 2 or 3 worked from requesting a massive amount of "approved" stickers and placing them on ballots. Again, observers did not watch any level 3 work and did not watch most of level 2 work. Once stickers were placed on ballots, there was no record on the ballot or elsewhere to determine who placed the sticker there. We were told to not sign or initial the sticker, but to only date it. Accordingly, there was no way to know who placed "verified" stickers on ballots. The system was wide open to abuse and allowed for potential false placement of "verified" stickers without accountability.

Onigkeit Decl. ¶ 17-18.

62. From the available information, an off-site, third-party contractor, Star Center, was part of the process of curing ballots that were previously rejected by all levels of signature review. This off-site group was not accountable to observers. Nystrom explained,

Star Center, which was a third-party contractor that worked completely offsite but had the same access to the voter's file information as we did on the computers at MCTEC, to cure their affidavit signature. My understanding of the Star Center's curing process was to verify information from the voter's file, i.e., the last 4 of their SS #, driver's license #, street address, full name and any other identifying information in their file. It is my understanding that the Star Center was able to cure and did cure ballots, but were not able to see the actual ballot with the signature on it. It is my understanding that the Star

Center work was not monitored with observers, whereas my work was required to be monitored by observers. Since they had the ability to cure and reverse the rejection of signatures, I do not know why their work was not monitored by observers.

Nystrom Decl. ¶ 17.

## <u>Ballot Printers and Tabulator Failures At More Than 59% of Maricopa County's</u> 223 Vote Centers Created Chaos on Election Day

- 63. The rampant errors, confusion, and equipment failures on Election Day in Maricopa County reduced the number of votes cast and votes counted from citizens who chose to vote on Election Day. The result of this confusion was predictable a larger reduction in the number of votes cast for Lake, a much smaller reduction in the number of votes cast for Hobbs, and a highly improper relative advantage created for Hobbs.
  - a. Election-Day voters in Maricopa County favored Lake in the race for Governor of Arizona by a wide ratio, approximately 3:1.
  - b. The citizens who were deterred from voting, or whose votes were not counted on Election Day, would have given Lake a material gain of votes that could have changed the outcome of the race.

# Maricopa County Roving Attorney Program

64. The Republican National Committee ran an Election Integrity program in Arizona on November 8, 2022. The Election Integrity program engaged 18 volunteer attorneys ("Roving Attorneys") who were each tasked with traveling to and observing select Vote Centers throughout Maricopa County on election day. Declaration of Mark Sonnenklar ("Sonnenklar Declaration"), ¶ 2.

- Attorneys (collectively, the "Roving Attorney Declarations"). Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4. The Roving Attorney Declarations detail problems witnessed at each Vote Center the attorney visited. Together, these twelve Roving Attorneys observed a total of 105 vote centers, or 47% of the total 223 vote centers in Maricopa County. Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 41-44.
- 66. The Roving Attorney Declarations are supplemented by declarations from approximately 221 additional poll workers, observers, and voters who witnessed problems at numerous Maricopa County Vote Centers on election day (together with the Roving Attorney Declarations, collectively, the "Vote Center Declarations"). Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 3-44, Attach. A-1-A219. The Vote Center Declarations provide a clear look at the actual voter experience in Maricopa County on November 8, 2022. The testimony from the Vote Center Declarations are mapped onto a spreadsheet attached as Exhibit 1, separated by Vote Center and election day issues. Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 3, Ex. 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet.

## **Vote Center Chaos**

- 67. The Vote Center Spreadsheet and the Vote Center Declarations together show widespread election day chaos throughout the Vote Centers in Maricopa County on election day.
- 68. The ballot tabulators and ballot printers experienced rampant breakdowns at no less than 132 out of the total 223 Maricopa County vote centers (59.2%), which

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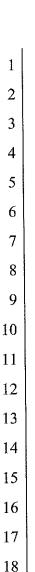
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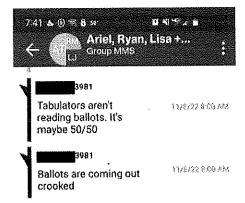
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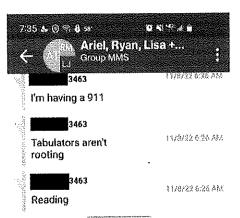
prevented the ballot tabulators from scanning many voter's ballots (the "Printer/Tabulator Breakdown"). Sonnenklar Declaration, Ex. 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet.

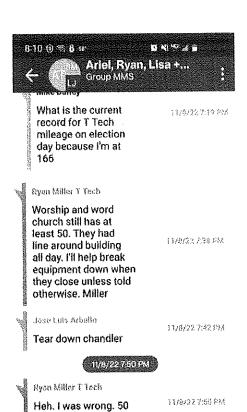
- 69. At the vote centers witnessed by the roving attorneys, the percentage of ballots that these tabulators were unable to read ranged from 5% to 100% at any given time on election day, with the average having a failure rate between 25% and 40%. Sonnenklar Declaration, \$\mathbb{P}\$ 40-43.
- 70. The chaos that ensued from the Printer/Tabulator Breakdowns throughout Maricopa County is documented in the text threads among 16 of the County's hired "T-Techs" who were trying to fix the rampant problems.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> IT workers hired by Maricopa County to fix election day technical problems.









inside and about 100 outside still waiting.

Coffee pls

The Tabulator Breakdown persisted at almost all of the problematic vote 71. centers long after the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors ("BOS") suggests that the problems had been fixed.<sup>6</sup> For example, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors' Report ("BOS Report") states: (1) at 10:14 a.m. on election day, the "Printer technicians identified a potential solution [to the Tabulation Breakdown] to adjust printer settings...Confirmed successful print and tabulation at one site"; (2) at 11:30 a.m. on election day, the BOS "[i]ssued guidance to all technicians in the field to make settings changes to the Oki printers; and (3) "[b]y mid-afternoon, most sites were no longer experiencing the printer issue." See Maricopa County BOS Report, pages 3-4. These BOS statements are inaccurate. In fact, the Vote Center Declarations show persistent Tabulator Breakdown issues throughout election day. The Vote Center Spreadsheet demonstrates that, at a minimum, the Tabulator Breakdowns continued at no fewer than 34 vote centers after 3 p.m. See Sonnenklar Decl., Exhibit 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet, Column K. At many vote centers, Tabulator Breakdowns persisted from the beginning until the end of election day. Id.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Maricopa County Attorneys' Office issued a November 27, 2022 letter, in response to Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Wright's Letter of November 19, 2022 (publicly available at <a href="https://elections.maricopa.gov/asset/jer:474f2301-1ff1-476d-a7fa-08945131f86c/LTR-2022.11.27-Liddy-to-Wright-FINAL.pdf">https://elections.maricopa.gov/asset/jer:474f2301-1ff1-476d-a7fa-08945131f86c/LTR-2022.11.27-Liddy-to-Wright-FINAL.pdf</a> ). The Maricopa County Attorneys' Office November 27, 2022 letter cites to Maricopa County Board of Supervisors' Report, with Exhibits numbered 1 through 11 (publicly available at <a href="https://elections.maricopa.gov/asset/jer:d294ebcd-eb4d-4efc-83d7-bd85f2fd7f9d/2022.11.27-Final-Report-and-Exhibits">https://elections.maricopa.gov/asset/jer:d294ebcd-eb4d-4efc-83d7-bd85f2fd7f9d/2022.11.27-Final-Report-and-Exhibits</a> ).

72. The Maricopa County's BOS Report also details the BOS's investigation into the Vote Center Tabulator Breakdowns on election day and attempts to minimize the number of vote centers affected. See Maricopa County BOS Report Ex. 7. The BOS Report is not accurate. In fact, of the twenty vote centers which the Maricopa County BOS claims did **not** have Tabulator Breakdowns, the Vote Center Declarations prove at a minimum 16 of these vote centers had persistent Tabulator Breakdowns on election day. Sonnenklar Decl., Exhibit 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet, Column J.

that long lines were widespread and lasting across Maricopa County on election day. The aggregate numbers are significant. Out of a total of 223 Maricopa County Vote Centers, at least 64 (28.7%) of the Vote Centers had long lines on election day, mostly due to the Tabulator Breakdowns. Sonnenklar Decl., Exhibit 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet, Column N. Moreover, despite the BOS's claims that the Tabulator Breakdowns were resolved by mid-afternoon on election day, the long lines persisted long past mid-afternoon for at least 24 vote centers. *Id.*, at Column O. It cannot be disputed that the oppressively long lines on election day resulted in depressed voter turnout in Maricopa County.

74. The Vote Center Declarations prove that because of the Tabulator Breakdowns and long lines at so many vote centers frustrated voters left at least sixteen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The 16 vote centers are: Buckeye Fire Station 704, Chandler United Methodist Church, Copper Hills Church/Westwing, Glendale Christian Church, Lifeway Church, Queen Creek Library, Scottsdale Elks Lodge, Shadow Rock Congregational Church, Skyway Church, Standing Stones Community Church, Surprise Senior Center, Tomahawk School, Youngker High School, Central Christian Church/Mesa, Church of Jesus Christ of LDS Buckeye, and Church of Jesus Christ of LDS Gilbert.

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Maricopa County Vote Centers without voting. *Id.*, at Column P. For example, Mr. Steele, a poll worker on election day at First United Methodist Church in Gilbert, was tasked with helping voters check into the site books from 1:30 p.m. until the last voter left the vote center around 10:30 p.m. (Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 1, attach. A-189, Steele Declaration ¶ 2. Mr. Steele testified that in his estimation 170-175 voters waiting in line on the evening of election day gave up and did not vote. *Id.* 8 The election day chaos also affected senior Maricopa County voters, who were unable to stand in line to vote. 9 Due to chaos that occurred at so many Vote Centers on election day, it is safe to assume that many more voters abandoned the voting line to cast a ballot or were discouraged from traveling to a Vote Center in the first place.

9 68-year-old Ms. Weiman showed up to vote on election day at Desert Hills Community

Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 4, attach. A-206, Weiman Declaration ¶¶ 5-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Additional testimony from one of the Roving Attorneys: "I observed at least five voters ... tell the Poll Inspector that, earlier in the day, they left this vote center because of the printer/tabulator issues and are now returning in the evening to vote but, since they arrived just after 7:00 p.m., the Poll Inspector turned them away and they were not allowed to vote." Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 1, attach. A-115, Ludwig Declaration ¶ 29.

Church. There were no parking spaces and a long line that was moving very slowly. She checked the Arizona election website for an alternate vote center, but the only other vote center within 20 miles was Outlets on Anthem, and the election website reported that it had a line of 350-400 people with an estimated wait time of 2-3 hours. In Peggy's words, "I did not feel my body could stand in line for such a long time." So, she came back to Desert Hills Community Church a few hours later. The line was still "about a mile long down the street." So, Peggy drove home without voting. She checked the election website one last time at 6:45 p.m. and saw that Desert Hills Community Center still had a line of approximately 110 people. Peggy says "This was infeasible for me. I ended up not being to vote—the first time that I have not voted since 1981." Sonnenklar

75. Although widespread across Maricopa County, a bi-partisan county, this voter suppression did not affect Republican and Democrat voter equally. For November 8, 2022, election day voting, Republican voters significantly outnumbered Democrat voters statewide, with an even greater delta for election day voting specifically in Maricopa County. Thus, it cannot be disputed that the Tabulator Breakdowns on election day impacted Republican voters more than Democrat voters.

## Commingling of Tabulated and Non-Tabulated Ballots on Election Day

The Vote Center Declarations also prove that there were numerous instances in which vote centers co-mingled tabulated and non-tabulated ballots. At the close of election day, prior to transporting the ballots to MCTEC, at least 16 Vote Centers improperly commingled tabulated ballots (deposited into tabulator Doors 1 and 2) and non-tabulated ballots (deposited into Door 3) into the same black canvas transport bag or other containers. Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 1, Vote Center Spreadsheet, Column M. The BOS Report states that this commingling was intentional: "[d]uring the November 2022 General Election, the Elections Department provided direction to poll workers that they could use one of the two black ballot transport canvass bags that each Vote Center was provided to transport the Door 3 ballots if the quantity exceeded the capacity of the envelope." Maricopa County BOS Report, page 6. The BOS report further concludes that the co-mingling occurred at only two Vote Centers. *Id.* Both of these statements are false.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 2022 Arizona Statewide canvas of election results, December 5, 2022: https://results.arizona.vote/#/state/33/0.

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According to Maricopa County election procedure, to ensure ballots are not 77. co-mingled, Door 3 non-tabulated ballots must be transported to MCTECH in a separate envelope or bag. 11 Due to the widespread Tabulator Breakdowns on election day, Vote Centers were overwhelmed with an unprecedented number of Door 3 ballots. Most Vote Centers with Tabulator Breakdowns would not have been able to fit their Door 3 ballots into the separate designated envelopes. Without a second special transport bag, the Vote Centers were forced to package these ballots alongside already tabulated ballots. MCTECH was not made aware of this when it received the transported ballots. Declaration of Kurt Olsen ("Olsen Declaration"), 7 17, Ex. 14, Kuchta Declaration 7 9-11. The improper transport process could have easily resulted in Door 3 ballots not being properly counted, or in some cases ballots being double-tabulated, both at the vote center and at MCTEC for at least twenty-six vote centers. *Id.*, at 1 16-19.

The Maricopa County BOS Report suggests that the Tabulator Breakdown 78. problem, even if widespread, is irrelevant. The BOS Report states that Maricopa voters had the option to place their misread ballots in "Door 3", therefore, the tabulator breakdown did not affect voting on election day." Maricopa County BOS Report, page 3-5. This argument ignores the facts on the ground. Maricopa County election day voters generally express a strong preference to have their ballots tabulated at the vote centers. For some voters, this is the reason they choose to vote specifically on election day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Maricopa County August Primary & November General Election Procedure Training availible Publicly Manual, 129. 134. https://elections.maricopa.gov/asset/jcr:2f02b340-4bc1-4782-8fa1-

Maricopa County election day voters want to ensure that their vote is counted at the vote center. If a voter deposits their vote into Door 3, it involves a more complicated tabulation process, first requiring transport to MCTEC, with a stronger possibility that a voter's ballot will not be properly counted. The Vote Center Declarations indicate that a significant percent of voters did not believe that ballots deposited into Door 3 would be properly counted. This belief was validated by the November 8, 2022, election, with widespread reports of ballots being improperly co-mingled, and rampant chain of custody problems throughout Maricopa County.

79. The Maricopa County BOS claims to have processed "16,724 Door 3 ballots" Maricopa County BOS Report, page 3. From the evidence in the Vote Center Spreadsheet and the massive amount of voter declarations detailing the number of Door 3 ballot drops, there is good reason to believe that the number of Door 3 ballots is far greater.

# Maricopa County Claims Relating to Vote Center Wait Times

80. The Maricopa County BOS Report attempts to deny the existence of long lines and wait times at many vote centers on election day. It cannot be disputed that there were oppressively long lines at the Vote Centers with Tabulator Breakdowns. Sonnenklar Declaration, \$\mathbb{P}\$3, Ex. 1 Vote Center Spreadsheet, Column N. For example, the BOS Report states that only 16 vote centers had average wait times on election day that exceeded 60 minutes, with only 7 of those 16 vote centers having wait times between 80-115 minutes (including Asante Library, ASU West, Biltmore Fashion Park, Church of Jesus Christ LDS—Southern, Desert Hills Community Church, Living Word Bible Church, and Red Mountain Community College). See Maricopa County BOS Report,

page 1. The Vote Center Declarations show a completely different story. In fact, at least 64 vote centers out of the total 223 Maricopa County vote centers (28.7%) had long enough lines on election day for them to be noted by various declarants. Although the BOS Report states that only seven vote centers had wait times greater than 80 minutes, witness testimony indicates that wait times of at least 80 minutes occurred at many other vote centers not listed in the BOS Report, including the following:

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Declarant's Name	Vote Center	Paragraph Number (if applicable)	Comment regarding wait time/line
Ariane Buser (A-29)	Cave Creek Town Hall	¶8&9	90-minute wait
Gary Lasham (A-100)	Dove of the Desert United Methodist	¶7	120-minute wait
Earl Shafer (A-181)	First United Methodist Church of Gilbert	Page 3	120-minute wait
Mary Ziola (A-219)	Happy Trails Resort	¶ 7	120-minute wait
Claire Morgan (A-134)	Mesquite Groves Aquatic Center	No ¶ numbers	120-minute wait
Peggy Weiman (A- 206)	Outlets at Anthem	¶7	2-3 hour, 350- 400 people in line
Roie Bar (A-220)	Radiant Church Sun City	¶ 13	120-minute wait for most of the day
Erinn Tatom (A- 195)	Sunland Village East	¶ 6	90-minute wait

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Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 1.

81. The BOS Report further states that only 16 vote centers had average wait times on election day that exceeded 60 minutes. The Vote Center Declarations prove there were wait times of at least 60 minutes at the following vote centers throughout Maricopa County, none of which were included in the BOS Report:

1	Declarant's Name	Vote Center	Paragraph Number (if	Comment regarding wait
2			applicable)	time/line
3	Jeffrey W.	ASU Sun Devil Fitness Center	¶ 26	More than 200
4	Crockett (A-44)			people; at least a two-hour wait
5	Jeffrey W. Crockett (A-44)	Avondale City Hall	¶ 14	97 people in line
6	Duane Schooley (A-178)	Buckeye City Hall	¶ 6(a) & (b)	35-75 people in line
8	Kathryn Baillie (A-11)	Cactus High School	¶ 25	200 people in line
9 10	Michael Brenner (A-25)	Compass Church	¶ 10	60+ minutes wait for most of day
11	Mark Sonnenklar	Copper Canyon School	¶ 34	100 people in line
12	Tabatha LaVoie (A-101)	El Dorado Community Center	¶ 28	At times, hour long wait
13 14	Kristine Moss (A-136)	First United Methodist Church of Gilbert	¶ 29	80 people in line
15	Keith Evanson (A-60)	First United Methodist Church of Gilbert	¶ 7 & 8(a)	120 people in line
16	Mark Sonnenklar	Fountain Hills Community Center	¶ 10	150 people in line
17	Kevin Beckwith (A-15)	Glendale Community College – North	¶ 14	100-120 people in line
18 19	Aaron Ludwig (A-115)	Happy Trails Resort	¶ 27	200 people in line
20	Mary Ziola (A-219)	Happy Trails Resort	¶ 7	2-hour wait
21	Tabatha LaVoie (A-101)	Indian Bend Wash Visitor Center	¶ 35	1.25 hour wait
22	Kathryn Baillie	Journey Church	¶ 35	"very long" wait
<ul><li>23</li><li>24</li></ul>	(A-11) Tabatha LaVoie	Messinger Mortuary	¶31	60 people in line
25	(A-101) Aaron Ludwig	Mountain Vista Club/Vistancia	¶ 22	100-120 people in line
26	(A-115) Aaron Ludwig	Radiant Church Sun City	¶ 30	100-120 people
27	(A-115)			in line

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Christian Damon (A-46)	San Tan Village	¶ 14	"a long line of voters"
Aaron Ludwig (A-115)	Sheriffs Posse of Sun City West	¶ 16	80-100 people in line
Aaron Ludwig (A-115)	Surprise City Hall	¶ 10	200 people in line
Kristine Moss (A-136)	Tumbleweed Recreation Center	¶ 21	Between 250- 500 people in line
Mark Sonnenklar	Venue 8600	¶ 32	"line extending outside the building"
Mark Sonnenklar	Via Linda Senior Center	¶ 21	150 people in line
Kathryn Baillie (A-11)	Worship & Word Church	¶ 9, 14 & 16	80-100 people in line
Ken Mettler (A-131)	Worship & Word Church	¶ 5	100-125 people in line and 1.0-1.5 hour wait

Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 4, Ex. 1.

- 82. To further prove the unreliability of the Maricopa County BOS data, Black Mountain Baptist Church and Cave Creek Town Hall were two vote centers in which all the onsite tabulators were not operational for a significant part of election day. Id., attach. A-196, Teixeira Declaration. These two vote centers turned away voters and directed potential voters to other vote centers nearby. Despite this, the BOS Report does not list these two vote centers as vote centers with significant wait times.
- 83. As another example of inaccurate BOS supplied data, the BOS Report states that the longest reported wait times for Desert Hills Community Church and the Church of Jesus Christ of LDS—Southern vote centers were 85 minutes and 88 minutes, respectively. See Maricopa County BOS Report, page 1. This data is also directly contradicted by the Vote Center Declarations:

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Declarant's Name	Vote Center	Paragraph Number (if applicable)	Comment regarding wait time/line
Inspector Harold Darcangelo (A-47)	Church of Jesus Christ of LDS—Southern	¶ 1	120-minute wait, 275 people in line
Clerk Debbie Gillespie (A-67)	Desert Hills Community Church	¶ 3	120-minute wait

Sonnenklar Declaration, ¶ 3, Ex. 1, at attach. A-47, Darcangelo Declaration, ¶ 1; attach. A-67, Gillespie Declaration, ¶3.

84. As further proof of the outright chaos in Maricopa County on election day, Plaintiff points to videos taken by voters of the oppressively long lines at the Via Linda Senior Center vote center and the Copper Canyon Elementary School vote center. See Sonnenklar Declaration, § 45. It cannot be disputed, that the data provided by the Maricopa County BOS Report relating to vote center wait times and tabulator breakdowns is not reliable. Since election day, in an attempt to validate and certify the election, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has consistently downplayed the unfolding chaos that occurred in Maricopa County on November 8, 2022. Plaintiff's numerous Vote Center Declarations prove otherwise. It cannot be disputed, that the Tabulator Breakdowns and long lines at the vote centers, improperly suppressed election day voter turnout in Maricopa County.

# The Catastrophic Failures of Tabulators At More Than Half Of Maricopa County's Vote Centers Disenfranchised Between At Least 15,603 and 29,257 Republican Voters Who Would Have Cast Their Vote For Kari Lake

85. On Election Day, Maricopa County operated 223 sites ("Vote Centers") at which voters could check in and cast a ballot. At each Vote Center, voters were supposed to complete the following process cast their ballots: (a) present acceptable identification to "check in," (b) receive a ballot printed by an on-demand on-site printer, (b) complete the ballot using a pen, (4) feed the ballot into a computerized scanner ("tabulator"). The tabulator was then supposed to count the votes marked on the ballot. After voting ended

and the Vote Centers closed, the ballots cast at the Vote Centers were packaged and transported to MCTEC.

- 86. Election data published show stark differences in the proportions of votes received by candidates Lake and Hobbs for each different type of voting. According to the figures published by the Arizona Secretary of State, Lake received 70% (330,249 out of 469,822) of the votes cast statewide at polling places, while Hobbs received 55% (1,144,948 out of 2,080,363) of the votes cast statewide through early balloting.
- 87. The chaos and confusion at Maricopa County's Vote Centers on Election Day adversely and disproportionately affected Lake's vote total in the election. Voters deterred from voting by the long lines and tabulator malfunctions would have voted in favor of Lake by a margin of 70% to 30%.
- 88. Richard Baris is a professional data analyst who performs polling, election forecast modeling, and analysis for his clients. His work has been cited in media outlets including Bloomberg and Fox News, and he has served as an expert and voir dire researcher in state and federal court cases with subject matter ranging from elections to civil rights.<sup>12</sup>
- 89. Baris's firm, Big Data Poll, conducted a voting exit poll in the state of Arizona from November 1 to November 8, 2022, obtaining responses from voters who voted in a variety of different ways, such as early in-person, depositing an early ballot in a ballot dropbox, and mail-in voting. The sample included 813 residents of Maricopa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Declaration of Richard Baris ("Baris Decl.") attached as Ex. 11 to the Declaration of Kurt Olsen.

County. This poll provides a scientific basis to determine a predictable turnout for the election as a whole, based on accepted metrics. Election Day respondents were also asked, "Did you have any issues or complications when trying to vote in person, such as tabulators rejecting the ballot or voting locations running out of ballots?"

A much larger proportion of poll respondents identifying as Republican reported having issues while trying to cast a ballot on Election Day, as compared to respondents identifying as Democrats, by a margin of 58.6% to 15.5%. The rate of those reporting issues was 39.7% for voters who identified as "independent" or as an "other" party.

90. Baris's expert opinion, based on accepted mathematical principles and Maricopa County voter histories, is that the tabulator breakdowns suppressed Election Day turnout, and that absent the machine breakdowns at Vote Centers across Maricopa County, Kari Lake would conservatively have gained between 15,603 and 29,257 votes over Katie Hobbs in Maricopa's final election canvass.

### <u>Hobbs' And Maricopa Officials' Unlawful and Unconstitutional Censoring of Election Related Information on Social Media and Other Platforms</u>

91. Freedom of speech is one of the most sacred rights in the U.S. Constitution. Documents produced in the recent case of *Missouri. v. Biden*, No. 3:22 ev 01213 (W.D. La.) (the "*Missouri First Amendment Litigation*") revealed that DHS and CISA secretly created "a centralized portal" in April 2020 for state and local election officials to report so-called disinformation that was counter to whatever narrative these government officials sought to promote. <sup>13</sup> CISA or the Center for Internet Security ("CIS") acting on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ex. 1 attached to the Olsen Decl.

CISA's behalf, would take reports from election officials, like Hobbs, complaining about posts on e.g. Twitter or Facebook. CISA would then contact social media companies and other platforms to censor election related information. Such acts are per se violations of the First Amendment. A one-page summary of the so-called Elections Misinformation Reporting Portal produced in the *Missouri First Amendment Litigation* is attached as Ex. 1 to the Olsen Declaration. This document lists a number of "[b]enfits to state-level elections offices" including:

The ability to look across the elections jurisdictions to identify patterns and potential impact of misinformation activity. This will permit national-level organizations to help put priority on response actions and make decisions regarding media engagement in parallel with actions taken by the social media companies.

- 92. These federal, state, and local government officials did not simply attempt to publicly correct information that they believed was inaccurate. Rather, they secretly sought to remove information from the public domain that they disagreed with. Upon information and belief, hundreds of thousands of censorship requests by state and local election officials were processed through this portal between 2020 and 2022.
- 93. Secretary Hobbs, and Recorder Richer directly participated in this program censoring Americans.
- 94. For example, Ex. 2 to the Olsen Declaration is an email chain from Hobbs' office to CIS "Misinformation Reports" requesting deletion of two Twitter posts that Hobbs claimed "undermine[d] confidence in the election institution in Arizona." The time elapse from Hobbs' initiating complaint to Twitter's acknowledgement of removal took less than eight hours.

95. In another complaint Hobbs made to misinformation@cisecurity.org, Hobbs complained about a *private* Facebook post stating that Trump had won. <sup>14</sup> Upon information and belief Hobbs and other Maricopa County officials sent many more censorship requests. Lake issued a public records request for such documents on December 9, 2022.

96. Richer also participated directly in a propaganda and censoring program at the national level of CISA through the 2022 election cycle. For example, attached as Ex. 3 to the Olsen Declaration is a CISA memorandum regarding a meeting on March 29, 2022 that included, among others, three Maricopa County employees from the Recorder's office, CISA officials, and the general counsel of Twitter, Vijaya Gadde. The memorandum states the purpose of the meeting as:

The purpose of the CISA Cybersecurity Advisory Committee (CSAC) Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Misinformation & Disinformation (MDM) Subcommittee meeting was to hear a brief from Mr. Stephen Richer, County Recorder in Maricopa, AZ, on current election processes and needs among elections officials and to discuss CISA's role in the MDM space.

- 97. Richer then gave a case study presentation on how he believed censorship of election related information that he disagreed with was necessary.
- 98. Hobbs and Richer are striving to secretly stifle facts and manipulate voters' opinions about elections—while at the same time allowing or participating in the violations of Arizona election laws described herein.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ex. 4 Olsen Decl.

99. Hobbs's and Richer's actions are a per se violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and art, II, § 6 of the Arizona Constitution.

# Maricopa County Election Officials Are Responsible for The Failures of The Ballot On Demand Printers And Tabulators Which Resulted From Intentional Misconduct And Disproportionately Targeted Republican Voters

100. Given the policies and procedures governing the testing and use of electronic voting systems in Arizona, the extent and character of the problems and breakdowns encountered at Vote Centers in Maricopa County on Election Day eliminate any plausible explanation other than intentional causation as the reason for the widespread breakdowns of printers and/or tabulators at the Vote Centers that day. Maricopa County did not experience these kinds of widespread breakdowns in the days leading up Election Day, or during the limited testing performed on the election equipment. The sudden widespread appearance of preventable breakdowns on Election Day, a day on which it was known that the electorate would be heavily weighted toward voters favoring Lake, was an outcome materially and adversely and Maricopa indicates that the problems were intentionally caused.

101. Clay Parikh is a qualified cyber expert with nearly twenty years' experience. He has operated at some of the highest levels in the U.S. government in the areas of Information Assurance (IA), Information Security and Cyber Security, Vulnerability Management, Security Test and Evaluation (ST&E) and system accreditation. Mr. Parikh has provided cyber work and support to organizations such as NATO, NASA-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See Declaration of Clay Parikh attached as Ex. 13 to the Olsen Declaration at ¶¶ 2-4.

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Marshall Space Flight Center, and multiple Department of Defense agencies within the U.S. government. Id. at  $\P$  3

- 102. Mr. Parikh also spent nine years from 2008-2017 "perform[ing] security tests on vendor voting systems for certification from the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) or various Secretaries of State. *Id.* at ¶ 5.
- 103. In his declaration, Mr. Parikh details his assessment of the events that gave rise to the catastrophic failures with the printers and tabulators on Election Day at Vote Centers in Maricopa County.
- 104. His conclusions as to the widespread printer and/or tabulator breakdowns on Election Day at Vote Centers in Maricopa County are damning:

Some components of the voting system used in the election were not certified thus endangering the entire voting process. The use of one of these uncertified components violates Arizona law. There were numerous procedural violations that can only be categorized as intentional. Maricopa County experienced a widespread technical breakdown across a significant portion of their vote centers. They reported 70 sites out of 223 (31.8%) voting centers were affected. Other reports list as high as 132 sites out of 223 (59.2%) were affected. Whichever figure is correct, given the required standards and procedures involved with the election process, an unintentional widespread failure of this magnitude occurring could not arise absent intentional misconduct. The explanations given to the public and media for what caused the technical issues were not correct. The county also did not sufficiently provide the affected voters with instructions nor the poll workers with procedures for the contingency plan or "back up plan", let alone ensure the plan and the mitigation was implemented effectively and efficiently.

Id. at  $\P$  7.

105. Mr. Parikh's findings and conclusions also warrant an immediate and full forensic audit "to include the SiteBooks and [ballot on demand] printers to conduct a proper analysis and root cause of these issues." *Id.* at ¶ 33.

### Illegal Ballot Handling and Chain of Custody Failures with Respect To Over 300,000 Ballots Make The Outcome of the Election Uncertain

- 106. Maricopa County election officials engaged in numerous breaches of Arizona election law in their handling and custody of ballots, making it impossible to conclude that the vote tallies reported by Maricopa County accurately reflect the votes cast by Arizona voters.
- 107. Arizona law requires that "[t]he county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall maintain records that record the chain of custody for all election equipment and ballots during early voting through the completion of provisional voting tabulation." Ariz. Stat. § 16-621(E) (emphasis added). See also Arizona Elections Procedures Manual 61-61.
- 108. A proper chain of custody is not ministerial. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission instructs that "Chain of custody is essential to a transparent and trustworthy election." <sup>16</sup> "Chain of custody documents provide evidence that can be used to authenticate election results, corroborate post-election tabulation audits, and demonstrate that election outcomes can be trusted." *Id.* at 3.

https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/bestpractices/Chain\_of\_Custody\_Best\_Practices.pdf at 2.

- 109. A.R.S. § 16-452(C) states, "A person who violates any rule adopted pursuant to this section is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor." This criminal penalty underscores the Arizona state legislature's recognition of the critical nature of expressly following chain of custody requirements with respect to ballots. *See also* A.R.S. § 16-1016(7), (8).
- 110. The Arizona Elections Procedure Manual, pages 61-62, establishes required procedures for secure ballot retrieval and chain of custody for all drop box ballots. The requirements include that each county must confirm receipt of the retrieved ballots by signing the retrieval form and indicating the date and time of receipt on the form. The retrieval form must be attached to the outside of the transport container or maintained in a way that ensures the form is traceable to the respective ballot container. Significantly, when the secure transport container is opened by the county recorder, "the number of ballots inside the container shall be counted and noted on the retrieval form."
- 111. Maricopa County election officials received two categories of early voting ballots on Election Day, EV ballots received at ballot drop-off sites and mail-in ballots returned through the U.S. Postal Service. Maricopa County delivered these ballots to Runbeck to obtain electronic images of the signatures on the ballots. After scanning, the ballots were eventually transferred back to the Maricopa County Tabulation and Election Center.
- 112. Maricopa County failed to maintain and document the required secure chain of custody for hundreds of thousands of ballots, in violation of Arizona law, including as described below, for over 298,942 ballots delivered to Runbeck on Election Day.

a. A Runbeck employee observed that Maricopa County election workers delivered Early-Vote ("EV") ballots retrieved from ballot drop boxes and mail-in ballots from the Postal Service, neither of which were accompanied by any of the required chain of custody paperwork which, among other things, would document the number of ballots received from ballot drop boxes. According to the employee, Runbeck received 298,942 ballots on Election Day which includes the EV ballots. The required chain of custody for these ballots does not exist. Indeed, two days later, on November 10, 2022, the employee observed that Maricopa County had to ask Runbeck how many ballots Runbeck had received on election night, demonstrating that Maricopa County itself did not know how many EV ballots had been retrieved from ballot drop boxes on Election Day in violation of Arizona law. 17

b. The Runbeck employee's testimony is confirmed by Maricopa County's response to a public records request for chain of custody forms. Early Voting Ballot Transport Statements were produced by Maricopa County on December 6, 2022, in response to a public records request by Lake. Maricopa County produced 1149 of these documents dated October 12th through November 7th but not a single document from Election Day drop box ballot retrievals. The official canvass report indicated that Maricopa County

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ex. 9 Olsen Decl., Declaration of Denise Marie.

received over 292,000 EV ballots (not including provisional and ballots picked up by the U.S. Postal Service) dropped off on Election Day. However, Maricopa County did not produce chain of custody documents for these reported Election Day drop box ballots.

c. The fact that no required chain of custody documentation exists for these 298,942 ballots (as well as others) is further confirmed by the sworn testimony of a credentialed election observer at MCTEC on Election Day. That observer testified she observed the trucks and vehicles delivering ballots and memory cards from the Vote Centers and ballot drop boxes. She observed the delivery of the transport containers of ballots retrieved from drop boxes on Election Night. The witness observed the receipt and processing of the ballot transport containers. She saw MCTEC workers cut the plastic security seals off of the ballot transport containers and let them fall to the floor without any attempt to record seal numbers. When the transport containers were opened, the ballots inside the containers were not counted and therefore no numbers were recorded on retrieval forms. She observed the transport containers of early voting ballots delivered without any required documentation or paperwork on the outside of the containers. No Early Voting Ballot Transport Statements were utilized. She observed early ballot envelopes being removed by workers from opened containers without any attempt to count them or document them as required by Arizona law. She observed packages of misfed/misread ballots collected and moved

around with no discernable process to track or account for the ballots. She observed temporary employees moving unsecured metal carts full of ballots without any security or monitoring.<sup>18</sup>

113. The entire ballot transfer process provides opportunities for legal ballots to be lost or illegal ballots to be added. Chain of custody procedures and documentation prevent ballots from being lost or added. Chain of custody documentation must show the location, ballot container seal numbers, date, time, and ballot couriers for every transfer. Yet ballots were transferred without documentation of chain of custody.

were permitted to add their own and family members' ballots into the batches of incoming ballots, without any documentation or tracking the chain of custody of these ballots. There is no way to know whether 50 ballots or 50,000 ballots were unlawfully added into the election in this way. The Runbeck facility is not a legal ballot drop off site. Ballots not delivered to the office of the county recorder are not valid and should not be counted. A.R.S. § 16-547(D). A.R.S. § 16-1016 states that it is unlawful to "knowingly adds a ballot to those legally cast at any election, by fraudulently introducing the ballot into the ballot box either before or after the ballots in the ballot box have been counted." Given this blatant violation of Arizona law, there is no way to tell the number of ballots that were illegally injected into the 2022 election.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Ex. 10 Olsen Decl., Declaration of Leslie White.

115. Throughout the 2022 election cycle Runbeck printed duplicate ballots. These are duplicates of ballots that had been damaged in some way or could not be read by the tabulator. The selections from the voter were supposed to be filled in and a new, duplicate ballot printed. The Runbeck employee stated that there were at least 9,530 duplicate ballots printed. When these ballots were picked up by Maricopa County, there was no documentation — no delivery/shipping receipt, no chain of custody document, no signature. They were simply handed over to the delivery driver.

116. In 2021, the Arizona Attorney General expressly warned Maricopa that it has been violating ballot chain of custody procedures. Specifically, on April 6, 2021, Attorney General Mark Brnovich issued a report concluding that Maricopa County violated Arizona law by failing to maintain proper chain of custody for early ballots retrieved from ballot drop boxes in connection with the 2020 Election. The Attorney General wrote, "these procedures designed to preclude ballot tampering are critical given the volume of early ballots that were dropped at these locations during the 2020 general election." Yet Maricopa County again violated Arizona law concerning the chain of custody for early ballots retrieved from ballot drop boxes during the 2022 Election.

117. On October 25, 2022, Secretary Hobbs wrote in a letter to Cochise County that it had "no discretion to deviate" from the requirements that are established by the Arizona Legislature and in the EMP concerning elections. Secretary Hobbs made clear the importance that counties to adhere "precisely what that statute and the 2019 Election

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://www.azag.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/2022-04-06%20Fann%20letter.pdf

Procedures Manual ('EPM') require." Under Arizona law, the Board has only those powers "expressly conferred by statute," and the Board "may exercise no powers except those specifically granted by statute and in the manner fixed by statute." *Hancock v. McCarroll*, 188 Ariz. 492, 498 (App. 1996).

### Over 25,000 Ballots Were Added to The Total Ballots Collected After Election Day Indicating A Chain Of Custody Failure

- 118. Highlighting the chain of custody failures discussed above is the fact that two days after Election Day was completed Maricopa County found more than 25,000 additional ballots, whereas properly followed chain of custody procedures would require Maricopa County election officials to know the exact number of ballots submitted by the day after Election, November 9, 2022.
- ballots to be counted on November 9, 2022, and November 10, 2022, show an increase of approximately 25,000 votes with no explanation of why the number of remaining ballots could increase. On November 9, the County Recorder announced that "275,000+ballots" had been sorted for scanning and signature verification after the Maricopa Counting Vote Centers closed. On November 10, Maricopa County election official Celia Nabor contacted the County's contractor Runbeck and asked how many ballots were scanned at Runbeck, and Runbeck reported 298,000 ballots, an unexplained increase of 25,000 after the legal deadline for accepting ballots had closed.

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11/9/22	Updated Unoffical Results	https://elactions.mancopa.gov/news-and- information/elections-news/markopa-sounty; election-results-updated november 9-2027 html	1,136,849	410,000	1,546,649
11/9/22	SoS 19:14	https://web.archive.org/web/20221110100341/ https://apps.arisone.vote/info/bps/2022- general-election/33/0	1,136,849	407,664	1,544,513
11/10/22	Updated Unoffical Results	https://elections.markopa.gov/news-and- enformation/elections-news/markopa-county: election-results-updated-november-10- 2022-html	1,215,718	350,000	1,565,718
11/10/22	SOS 23:03	https://web.archive.org/web/20221111111191// https://apps.arizona.vote/info/bps/2022- general-election/33/0	1,215,718	353,885	1,569,603
11/11/22	Updated Unolficial Results	https://elections.maricopa.gov/news-and- information/elections-news/maricopa-tounty- election-results-updated-november-11. 2022.html	1,290,669	275,000	1,565,669
11/11/22	\$o\$ 20:11	https://web.archive.org/web/20221112114733/ https://apps.aruona.vote/infe/bps/2022: general-election/33/0	1,290,669	274,885	1,565,554
11/21/22	Official Results	https://results.arizona.vote/#/featured/33/0	1,562,758	0	1,542,758

120. This unexplained increase in EV ballots was also reflected on the Department of State website between November 9 and November 10. On November 9th, Maricopa County reported to the AZ Department of State that it had counted 1,136,849 ballots and had 407,664 ballots left to be tabulated. That is a total of 1,544,513 ballots. By November 11, 2022 Maricopa County reported and the Department of State published that the Maricopa had counted 1,290,669 ballots and had 274,885 ballots left to tabulate, which is a total of 1,565,554 ballots. The shifting numbers of ballots evidence Maricopa County's failure to account for EV ballots and failure to maintain security and chain of custody for the ballots as required by Arizona Law.

### Maricopa County Officials Conflicts of Interest and False Public Statements Constitute Misconduct

121. Key Maricopa County officials have actively opposed Lake's political views and priorities. Election Day chaos that depressed the number of votes for Lake, under the administrative responsibility of these officials, leads to the inference that the Election Day failures were not unwelcome to the officials on whose watches these failures occurred.

122. Secretary Hobbs, who ran for governor while overseeing her own election, recently threatened county supervisors with arrest if they did not certify the election.<sup>20</sup> Arizona law requires supervisors to canvass the election results—it does not require the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> https://townhall.com/tipsheet/saraharnold/2022/12/01/katie-hobbs-office-threatened-county-board-with-arrest-if-they-didnt-certify-results-n2616629

Board of Supervisors to rubber stamp and "certify" them. A.R.S. § 16-622. Threatening government officials in the performing their duties itself is a crime. A.R.S. § 13-2402.

Stephen Richer has raised thousands of dollars for a political action committee he founded, Pro-Democracy Republicans PAC, which was expressly created to oppose Lake and her political allies. <sup>21</sup> Richer has additionally made public statements in opposition to Lake and her political allies, taking credit for founding this political action committee. The stated mission of Richer's PAC is "to support pro-democracy Arizona Republicans" who reject "conspiracy theorists and demagoguery" from candidates who maintain the 2020 presidential election in Arizona was stolen. However, "[w]hile Richer's PAC claims to support Republicans, it has received money from a man who donates to almost exclusively Democrats and in direct opposition to GOP gubernatorial nominee Kari Lake, GOP Secretary of State nominee Mark Finchem, several state legislators and candidates for Maricopa County Supervisor." Richer is responsible for the conduct of an election for the fourth largest county in the United States, and he is directly advocating against candidates for office in the very county over which he oversaw the election.

124. Maricopa County election officials' false public statements during and after the election downplaying this debacle also support a finding of misconduct in this election. Nor is this the first time Maricopa County officials made false statements and obfuscated investigation of their election process. For example, during a House Oversight

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> https://arizonasuntimes.com/2022/11/23/maricopa-county-recorder-stephen-richers-founding-of-partisan-pac-raises-ethical-and-legal-questions-of-possible-misconduct/

and Government Reform Committee hearing, Representative Andy Biggs questioned Maricopa County officials about their deletion of 2020 election data in order to avoid a state senate subpoena for election records. Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jack Sellers and the board vice chairman, Bill Gates, admitted they intentionally deleted election data—data which had been subpoenaed by the Arizona Senate and this court had ordered Maricopa County to produce.<sup>22</sup>

#### **Improper Certification of Election**

- 125. On December 5, 2022, The Secretary of State, Katie Hobbs, formally certified that she, Hobbs, received 1,287, 891votes in the 2022 Election and Kari Lake received 1,270,774 votes, a difference of 17,117 votes.
- 126. The rampant equipment failures and illegal processes in Maricopa County make it impossible to know with any reasonable degree of confidence whether an outcome determinative number of votes for Lake were not counted, miscounted, or illegally deterred.
- 127. With the available information, no one can know whether Hobbs actually received more votes than Lake in this election whose administration was overseen by Hobbs.
- 128. As set forth above, the Maricopa County election board and the election officers in Maricopa County engaged in misconduct that nullifies the results of the 2022 election in Maricopa County, by failing to prevent the entirely foreseeable problems that

 $<sup>^{22}\</sup> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUrMyR7P4eE\&t=112s$ 

afflicted the voting at Vote Centers on Election Day; and by failing to follow Arizona law with respect to signature verification and chain of custody.

- 129. As set forth above, the inclusion of vast numbers of illegal votes in the vote totals reported by Maricopa County preclude the inclusion of Maricopa County votes in the tallies for the election of Governor of Arizona. In order to avoid disenfranchising the legal voters in Maricopa County, the county must re-do its vote for the 2022 election, eliminating illegal votes from the count.
- Ounty caused the State of Arizona to wrongfully name Hobbs as the candidate who received the most votes in the election of Governor of Arizona. Lake received the greatest number of votes and is entitled to be named the winner. Alternately, the election must be re-done in Maricopa County to eliminate the effects of maladministration and illegal votes on the vote tallies reported by Maricopa County.
- County during the 2022 election caused grossly inaccurate vote tallies to be reported, unconstitutionally infringing Lake's right as a voter to have her vote counted only in accordance with all legal votes, and her right as a candidate to have all votes counted from all voters who wanted to vote for her. Maricopa County's denial of Lake's constitutional right to vote precludes Maricopa County from certifying the results of its unconstitutional election.

#### Freedom of Speech 2 U.S. Const. amend. I, Ariz. Const. art, II, § 6 Misconduct, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1) 3 4 Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein. 132. 5 Defendants Hobbs and Richer used their public office to violate the free-133. 6 speech protections of the federal and Arizona Constitutions to further their own 7 interests—Hobbs's candidacy and Richer's PAC—which would constitute misconduct, 8 9 even without the conflict of interest. 10 The misconduct by defendants Hobbs and Richer warrants not only vacatur 134. 11 of the actions that each has taken in the canvassing and certifying the 2022 general 12 election but also their recusal from any remaining participation in the 2022 general 13 14 election as Secretary of State and Recorder, respectively. 15 Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order vacating Maricopa County's 135. 16 canvass and Arizona's certification of the results of the 2022 election, with the renewed 17 Maricopa County canvas and Arizona certification awaiting the final resolution of the 18 other relief demanded here, which would affect that eventual canvas and certification. 19 20 COUNT II. 21 Illegal Tabulator Configurations 52 U.S.C. § 21081; A.R.S. § 16-442(B) 22 Misconduct and Illegal Votes, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1), (A)(4) 23 Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein. 136. 24 Under A.R.S. § 16-442(B), devices used in Arizona elections must be 25 137. 26 certified and must comply with the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"). 27

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COUNT I.

- 138. In 52 U.S.C. § 21081(b), HAVA deems the "total combination" of all components used to cast and count votes.
- 139. The knowing modification of the software, hardware, or source code for voting equipment without receiving approval or certification pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-442 is guilty of a class 5 felony. A.R.S. § 16-1004(B).
- 140. Protections such as certification requirements are not "advisory" if the violation of those protections "affect the result, or at least render it uncertain." *Findley v. Sorenson*, 35 Ariz. 265, 269, 276 P. 843, 844 (1929).
- 141. The BOD printers involved in the tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election day are not certified and have vulnerabilities that render them susceptible to hacking, as set out in the Parikh declaration.
- 142. As further set out in the Parikh declaration, the tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election day were the result of intentional action.
- 143. As set out in the Baris declaration, the tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election day disproportionately affected Republicans in two ways: (a) election-day voters are disproportionately Republican, and (b) even among the cohort of election-day voters, Republican areas within Maricopa County were disproportionately affected. Taken together, these factors affected the outcome of the Governor race.
- 144. The Vote Center Declarations establish that the tabulator issues at Maricopa County's vote centers was significantly more prevalent and of longer duration that the

Maricopa Defendants have acknowledged.

- 145. If the intentional actor was a Maricopa County election official covered by A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1), that official misconduct also would constitute an Equal Protection and Due Process violation.
- 146. Indeed, even if a Maricopa County election official covered by A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1) did not intentionally hack the use of uncertified election equipment nonetheless constitutes misconduct under that subsection.
- 147. If the intentional actor was *not* a Maricopa County election official covered by A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1), the resulting Maricopa County voting was nonetheless illegal under Arizona law because the use of uncertified election systems in violation of A.R.S. § 16-442(B) rendered the Maricopa County voting "uncertain" under *Findley v. Sorenson*, 35 Ariz. at 269, 276 P. at 844, and its progeny. Specifically, this interference qualifies as the type of "fraudulent combinations, coercion, and intimidation" that requires striking the entire vote:

It is to be observed that the fraud imputed to this precinct by contestee in his answer and assignment is not that kind of fraud, such as intimidation, bribery, or violence, or other misconduct so flagrant that the extent of its influence may rarely, if ever, be exactly computed, and the evil influence of which is so diffusive that the result of the election is made uncertain. It is said in 9 R.C.L., Elections, § 107:

"There is a distinction between particular illegal votes the effect of which may be proven and exactly computed and fraudulent combinations, coercion, and intimidation. It can never be precisely estimated how far the latter extends. Their effect cannot be arithmetically computed. It would be to encourage such things as part of the ordinary machinery of political contests to hold that they shall avoid only to the

extent that their influence may be computed. So wherever such practices or influences are shown to have prevailed, not slightly and in individual cases, but generally, so as to render the result uncertain, the entire vote so affected must be rejected."

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It is influence of this sort in those cases where the extent thereof may be determined with reasonable certainty, which is rarely the case, that it is the duty of the court to purge the returns of such fraud. A court, however, will exercise the power to reject the votes of an entire precinct and disfranchise a body of electors only where an imperative public necessity requires. It will do so as a last resort where it is found impossible to compute the wrong. If the illegal effect may be proven and computed with reasonable certainty, the returns will be purged to that extent only. But it is obvious here that, if the asserted fraud exists at all, it consists in the election officers fraudulently changing specific ballots which were marked and voted for contestee to appear as if marked and voted for contestant and counting them as voted for contestant. It is apparent that, if the proofs adduced are sufficient to justify the trial court in finding that such ballots were so fraudulently changed and counted, the identical proof that would sustain it must necessarily and with reasonable precision compute the extent of the fraud perpetrated.

Hunt v. Campbell, 19 Ariz. 254, 265-66, 169 P. 596, 601 (1917) (emphasis added).

148. Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order setting aside the election in its entirety.

#### COUNT III.

# Mail-In Ballots with Invalid Signatures A.R.S. § 16-550(A) Misconduct, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1)

- 149. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 150. To be lawful and eligible for tabulation, the signature on the affidavit accompanying an early ballot must match the signature featured on the elector's

151. Upon information and belief, a material number of early ballots cast in the November 8, 2022 general election were transmitted in envelopes containing an affidavit signature that the Maricopa County Recorder or his designee determined did not match the signature in the putative voter's "registration record." The Maricopa County Recorder nevertheless accepted a material number of these early ballots for processing and tabulation.

152. Specifically, the invalid-signature ballot envelopes established in the Busch and Parikh declarations demonstrate that Maricopa County's elections suffered from outcome-determinative number of illegal votes from mail-in ballots in 2020 and 2022. The illegal votes require the Court to act to set aside the 2022 general election:

This is not a case of mere technical violation or one of dotting one's "i's" and crossing one's "t's." At first blush, mailing versus

hand delivery may seem unimportant. But in the context of

absentee voting, it is very important. Under the Arizona Constitution, voting is to be by secret ballot. Ariz. Const. art

VII, § 1. Section 16-542(B) advances this constitutional goal by setting forth procedural safeguards to prevent undue

influence, fraud, ballot tampering, and voter intimidation. [...

A] showing of fraud is not a necessary condition to invalidate absentee balloting. It is sufficient that an express non-technical

statute was violated, and ballots cast in violation of the statute

affected the election. We therefore vacate the opinion of the court of appeals and reinstate the judgment of the trial court

24 Miller,

Miller, 179 Ariz. at 180, 877 P.2d at 279.

setting aside the election.

153. To the extent the Elections Procedures Manual purports to authorize the validation of early ballot affidavit signatures by reference to a signature specimen that is

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not found in the voter's "registration record," the Manual is contrary to the plain language of A.R.S. § I 6-550(A), and hence unenforceable.

- 154. The remedy for illegal absentee ballots is either to set aside the election under *Miller*, 179 Ariz. at 180, or proportionately to reduce each candidate's share of mail-in ballots under *Grounds*, 67 Ariz. at 183-85.
- 155. Accordingly, Lake is entitled both to an order requiring the Maricopa Defendants to revisit all or a representative sample of the EV ballot envelopes to check for valid signatures and to an order either setting aside the election or proportionately reducing the tabulated returns of early ballots.

#### COUNT IV.

#### Invalid Chain of Custody A.R.S. §§ 16-621(E), 16-1016 Misconduct, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1)

- 156. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 157. Procedural protections such as chain-of-custody requirements are not "advisory" if the violation of those protections "affect the result, or at least render it uncertain." *Findley v. Sorenson*, 35 Ariz. 265, 269, 276 P. 843, 844 (1929).
- 158. The Runbeck whistleblower indicated that Runbeck employees could add ballots to the batches of incoming ballots, without any documentation or tracking the chain of custody of the added ballots and thus with no way to know whether 50 ballots or 50,000 ballots were added in violation of A.R.S. § 16-1016.
- 159. Including EV ballots scanned at Runbeck, Maricopa County's total EV ballots fluctuated upward by approximately 25,000 ballots two days after the election.

- 160. Runbeck prepared at least 9,530 duplicate ballots with no chain of custody as required under Arizona law.
- 161. Especially in light of Maricopa's documented chain-of-custody violations with respect to the 2020 election, repeating those violations in the next election renders the result uncertain, especially when the votes in question affect the canvassed margin of victory.
- 162. Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order either setting aside the election or proportionately reducing the tabulated returns of early ballots.

#### COUNT V.

## Equal Protection U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1, cl. 4, Ariz. Const. art, II, § 6 Misconduct and Illegal Votes, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1), (A)(4)

- 163. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 164. Assuming *arguendo* that a state actor caused the tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election day, the disproportionate burden on a class of voters—Republicans—warrants a finding of intentional discrimination and a shift of the burden of proof to defendants.
- 165. On information and belief, even among the cohort of election-day voters, the BOD printer problem occurred with greater frequency and burdened Republican election-day voters more than 15 standard deviations than it burdened non-Republican election-day voters. *See Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482, 496 n.17, 97 S. Ct. 1272, 1281 (1977).
  - 166. Under those circumstances, the one-man, one-vote principle requires

counting all valid votes and not counting all invalid votes. *Reynolds*, 377 U.S. at 554-55; *Bush v. Gore*, 531 U.S. 98, 103 (2000) (per curiam) ("the votes eligible for inclusion in the certification are the votes meeting the properly established legal requirements").

167. Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order setting aside the election in its entirety.

#### COUNT VI.

## <u>Due Process</u> <u>U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1, cl. 3, Ariz. Const. art, II, § 6</u> <u>Misconduct and Illegal Votes, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(1), (A)(4)</u>

- 168. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 169. Assuming *arguendo* that a state actor caused the tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election day, the disproportionate burden on a class of voters—Republicans—warrants a finding of a due-process violation.
- unfairness," the integrity of the election itself violates substantive due process. *Griffin v. Burns*, 570 F.2d 1065, 1077 (1st Cir. 1978); *Duncan v. Poythress*, 657 F.2d 691, 702 (5th Cir. 1981); *Florida State Conference of N.A.A.C.P. v. Browning*, 522 F.3d 1153, 1183-84 (11th Cir. 2008); *Roe v. State of Ala. By & Through Evans*, 43 F.3d 574, 580-82 (11th Cir. 1995); *Roe v. State of Alabama*, 68 F.3d 404, 407 (11th Cir. 1995); *Marks v. Stinson*, 19 F. 3d 873, 878 (3rd Cir. 1994).
- 171. With respect to procedural due process, not only intentional failure to follow election law as enacted by a State's legislature but also random and unauthorized acts by state election officials and their designees in local government can violate the Due

1	Process Clause. Parratt v. Taylor, 451 U.S. 527, 537-41 (1981), overruled in part on	
2	other grounds by Daniels v. Williams, 474 U.S. 327, 330-31 (1986); Hudson v. Palmer,	
3	468 U.S. 517, 532 (1984).	
5	172. Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order setting aside the election in its	
6	entirety.	
7	COUNT VII.	
8 9	Non-Secret Mail-In Ballots U.S. Const. amend. XVI, § 1, cl. 3, Ariz. Const. art, VII, § 1 Illegal Votes, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(4)	
10	173. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.	
11 12	174. Mail-in ballots pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-547 do not satisfy the ballot-secrecy	
13	requirements of Arizona's Constitution. Ariz. Const. art, VII, § 1.	
14	175. The Arizona Republican Party challenged mail-in ballots and sought interim	
15	relief prior to the 2022 general election, and that litigation is pending in the Court of	
16 17	Appeals as Arizona Republican Party v. Hobbs, No. CA-CV-22-0388 (Ct. App. Div. 1)	
18	(argued Dec. 7, 2022).	
19	176. All absentee ballots cast in the 2022 general election are illegal votes for the	
20	purposes of A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(4).	
21	COUNT VIII.	
<ul><li>22</li><li>23</li></ul>	Incorrect Certification	
23	A.R.S. § 16-650  Illegal Votes and Erroneous Count of Votes, A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(4)-(5)	
25	177. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.	
26	178. Whether absolutely or on a <i>pro rata</i> basis, the cumulative impact of the	
27	176. Whother absolutely of our a provider construction	
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1	foregoing counts invalidates significantly more Hobbs votes than the certified margin of
2	victory for Hobbs.
3	179. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-672(A)(5), "by reason of erroneous count of votes
4 5	the person declared elected did not in fact receive the highest number of votes," id.,
6	and this Court must vacate the certification and direct the Secretary of State or Acting
7	Secretary of State to certify Lake as the duly elected Governor. A.R.S. § 16-676(C).
8	COUNT IX.
9	Inadequate Remedy
10	A.R.S. § 16-672 Declaratory Judgment, A.R.S. §§ 12-1831-1846
11	180. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
12	
13	181. To the extent that the special nature of these proceedings precludes bringing
14	concurrent federal claims against Maricopa County's 2022 general election, this Court
15	has jurisdiction under Arizona's Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act to declare that the
16 17	remedy provided by A.R.S. § 16-672 is inadequate to protect those federal rights and
18	requirements.
19	COUNT X.
20	Federal Constitutional Rights
21	U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1, cl. 3-4 Civil Rights Action, 42 U.S.C. § 1983
22	
23	182. Lake incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
24	183. To the extent that a non-governmental actor intentionally caused the
25	tabulator problems that certain Maricopa County vote centers experienced on election
26	day and the Court does not set aside the election under A.R.S. § 16-442(B) for uncertified
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election systems or under *Hunt v. Campbell*, 19 Ariz. at 265-66, 169 P. at 601, and its progeny for "fraudulent combinations, coercion, and intimidation," Maricopa County's selective weakening of early-voting protections (which benefits Democrat voters) and exposing election-day voters to nongovernmental hacking (which harms Republican voters) violations the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, which this Court can enforce separate from A.R.S. § 16-672 under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and concurrent jurisdiction.

184. Accordingly, Lake is entitled to an order setting aside the election in its entirety and ordering a new election.

#### **DEMAND FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Contestant Kari Lake demands relief in the following forms:

- An opportunity to inspect Maricopa County ballots from the 2022 general election, including ballot signature envelopes and the corresponding signatures on file with Maricopa County, prior to trial;
- A root cause analysis and forensic examination into the causes and extent of the printer-tabulator problems encountered on election day;
- c. Trial of all disputed factual issues;
- d. An order striking all signatures on file with Maricopa County that are not the "registration record" pursuant to A.R.S. § I 6-550(A);
- e. An order striking any invalid ballots or types of ballots on an absolute or prorated basis;

1	f.	An order setting aside the certified result of the 2022 Arizona gubernatorial
2		election and declaring that Kari Lake is the winner of the 2022 Arizona
3		gubernatorial election, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-676;
4	g.	In the alternative, an order vacating the certified results of the 2022 Arizona
5	-	gubernatorial election, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-676 or 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and
6		an injunction requiring that Maricopa County re-conduct the gubernatorial
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9		election in conformance with all applicable law and excluding all improper
10		votes, under the direction of a special master;
11	h.	Recusal of defendants Hobbs and Richer from further participation in matters
12		involving the 2022 general election, including any new election and the review
13		of any issues related to the 2022 general election and any new election.
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16		
17	DATE	D this 9th day of December 2022.
18		
19		Bryan James Blehm, Ariz. Bar No. 023891
20	<u> </u>	Blehm Law PLLĆ 10869 N. Scottsdale Rd., Suite 103-256
21		Scottsdale, Arizona 85254
22		(602) 752-6213 bryan@blehmlegal.com
23		OLSEN LAW, P.C.
24		Kurt Olsen, D.C. Bar No. 445279*
25		1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036
26		(202) 408-7025 ko@olsenlawpc.com
<ul><li>27</li><li>28</li></ul>		67
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\*to be admitted pro hac vice

Attorneys for Plaintiff-Contestant

#### Verification

#### I, Kari Lake, depose and say:

I have read the foregoing Verified Special Action Complaint and know the contents thereof by personal knowledge. I know the allegations of the Verified Special Action Complaint to be true, except the matters therein on information and belief, which I believe to be true.

Signed under penalty of perjury on this 9th day of December 2022.

Kari Lake