## Case No. 85302

Electronically Filed Sep 15 2022 02:41 p.m.

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF FLIXADET A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

## SIGAL CHATTAH, AN INDIVIDUAL

Plaintiff-Appellant,

V.

BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE; AND JOHN T. KENNEDY, AN INDIVIDUAL,

Defendants-Respondents.

## APPELLANT SIGAL CHATTAH'S APPENDIX TO OPENING BRIEF

Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq.
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Attorneys for Appellants

EXHIBIT NO		<b>BATES</b>
EXHIBIT 1	COMPLAINT	SC0001-SC0010
EXHIBIT 2	APPLICATION FOR TRO	SC0011-SC0041
EXHIBIT 3	CEGAVSKE RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR TRO	SC0043-SC0063
EXHIBIT 4	WLASCHKIN DECLARATION	SC0064-SC0066
EXHIBIT 5	REPLY TO RESPONSE -TRO	SC0067-SC0072
EXHIBIT 6	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER	SC0073-SC0085

## EXHIBIT "1"

1 2	COMP JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 9033	REC'D & FILED			
3	JOEY GILBERT LAW 405 Marsh Ave.	2022 AUG 24 PH 4: 40 AUBREY REGLACE			
4	Reno, Nevada 89509	BY. K. PELLASON			
5	Tel: (775) 284-7000 Fax: (775) 284-3809	DEPUTY			
6	Joey@joeygilbertlaw.com Counsel for Plaintiff				
7					
8	IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT				
9	OF THE STATE OF NEVAL	A IN AND FOR CARSON CITY			
10	SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,	)			
11	Plaintiff,	Case No: 22 OC 00099 18			
12	vs.	Dept No.:			
13	BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official	) ) COMPLAINT			
14	capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE, JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual				
15	Defendants.	) )			
16		) ]			
17					
18	COMPLAINT				
19	COMES NOW, SIGAL CHATTAH, in	dividually and as Nevada Republican Party			
20	Candidate for Nevada Attorney General, by and through the undersigned attorney of record				
21	JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. of JOEY GILBERT LAW, who hereby submit the following				
22	COMPLAINT FOR RELIEF and allege against Defendants as follows:				
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25	<i>III</i>				
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I.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This Court has jurisdiction to hear Plaintiff's claims pursuant to NRS 293.2045
   and grant declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to NRS 30.40 and 33.010.
- 2. Venue is proper under NRS 13.020 and 13.040 because this action is against a public officer for acting in her official capacity, and pursuant to NRS 293.2045.

II.

## **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff, SIGAL CHATTAH, a Nevada resident, is at all times mentioned herein the Republican Candidate for Nevada Attorney General and brings this action in accordance with NRS 293.2045.
- 2. At all times mentioned herein, Defendant BARBARA CEGAVSKE, is named herein in her official capacity as Nevada Secretary of State. As the Secretary of State, Cegavske is the Chief Office of Elections for Nevada and is responsible for the execution, administration, and enforcement of the state's election laws. See NRS 293.124.
- 3. At all times mentioned herein Defendant, JOHN T. KENNEDY, a purported Nevada resident, is the candidate running for Nevada Attorney General, designated with the Libertarian party filing his Declaration of Candidacy in ordinary course with the Nevada Secretary of State.
- 4. All of the acts or failures to act herein were duly performed by and attributable to all Defendants, each acting as agent, employee, or under the direction and/or control of the others. Said acts or failures to act were within the scope of said agency and/or employment and each of the Defendants and ratified the acts and omissions by the other Defendants. Whenever

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 and wherever reference is made in this Complaint to any acts by Defendants, such allegations and references shall also be deemed to mean the acts of each of the Defendants acting individually, jointly or severally.

5. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of Defendants DOES I through XX, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiff who therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE or ROE CORPORATION is responsible in some manner for the events and happenings herein referred to and damages caused proximately thereby to Plaintiff as herein alleged; that Plaintiff will ask leave of this Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of said Defendants DOES I through XX and/or ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX, when same have been ascertained by Plaintiff together with appropriate charging allegations, and to join such Defendants in this action.

## II. GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 2. On November 6, 2018, current Attorney General Aaron D. Ford was elected as Nevada's Attorney General by a margin of .05 percent and currently remains the Nevada Attorney General.
- On or about March 17, 2022, Plaintiff filed with the Secretary of State her
   Declaration of Candidacy for the Office of Attorney General, to run against the incumbent Aaron
   Ford.

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Complaint.

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- 11. On same day, Plaintiff also notified Nevada Attorney General's office and provided the office of the Nevada Attorney General the Election Integrity Complaint.
- 12. That on August 17, 2022, Defendant, Secretary of State issue a correspondence that Plaintiff's time to object to a candidate qualification had expired on April 5, 2022 under NRS 193.182 and refused to take further action.
- 13. That Defendant Secretary of State failed in her obligations to verify that Defendant Kennedy had in fact met the qualifications of NRS 228.010 to run for office, placing an onerous burden on Plaintiff to engage in such verification.
- 14. That the office of Nevada Attorney General's was notified of the disqualification of Defendant KENNEDY and also refused to take any subsequent remedial measures thereon.
- 15. That as noted supra, in the 2018 election, the margin for victory was less than half a point.
- 16. That having a disqualified candidate on the ballot poses a threat to the integrity of the election for the Office of Attorney General, and can compromise the margin of victory for qualified candidates.
- NRS 293.2045 entitled Remedies in preelection actions challenging candidates 17. who fail to meet qualifications for office; disqualification from taking office; removal from ballot or notification to voters at polling places; applicability provides as follows:
  - 1. In addition to any other remedy or penalty provided by law, but except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.1265, if a court of competent jurisdiction finds in any preelection action that a person who is a candidate for any office fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State: (a) The name of the person must not appear on any ballot for the election for which the person filed a declaration of candidacy, except that if the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the provisions of subsection 2 apply; and (b) The person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which the person filed a declaration of candidacy.

- 2. If the name of a person who is disqualified from entering upon the duties of an office pursuant to subsection 1 appears on a ballot for the election because the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the appropriate election officers shall post a sign at each polling place where the person's name will appear on the ballot informing voters that the person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office.
- 3. The provisions of this section apply to any preelection action brought to challenge a person who is a candidate for any office on the grounds that the person fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State, including, without limitation, any action brought pursuant to NRS 281,050, 293,182 or 293C.186 or any action brought for:
  - (a) Declaratory or injunctive relief pursuant to chapter 30 or 33 of NRS;
  - (b) Writ relief pursuant to chapter 34 of NRS; or
  - (c) Any other legal or equitable relief.
- 18. That following complete lack of subsequent remedial measures taken by the Nevada Secretary of State and the office of the Attorney General over the course of three weeks after notice, Plaintiff has no other recourse than to bring this action for proper adjudication by the judiciary in accordance with NRS 293.2045.
- 19. That allowing a disqualified candidate remain on the ballot severely prejudices

  Plaintiff and the integrity of the election for the office of Nevada Attorney General.

## III FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (FRAUD) (Against Defendant KENNEDY)

- 20. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 21. Defendant, JOHN T. KENNEDY, at no time relevant herein, was ever a licensed attorney with the State Bar of Nevada, disqualifying him from meeting the qualifications of NRS 228.010.
- 22. That Defendant intentionally and knowingly, with an utter disregard for the truth, signed a Declaration of Candidacy, without meeting the qualifications proscribed by law under

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24 25 NRS 228.010, and further knowing that he would not meet the qualifications as proscribed, if elected.

- 23. That Defendant KENNEDY, knowingly and willfully filed a declaration containing the false statement that he qualifies for office under NRS 228.010, punishable as a gross misdemeanor and this civil action brought *sub judice*.
- 24. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' fraud, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00, the exact amount of which will be determined at trial.
- 25. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain counsel to prosecute this action by reason of which she is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

## IV. SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (DECLARATORY RELIEF) (Against All Defendants)

- 26. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 27. A genuine justiciable controversy exists relevant to the rights of Plaintiff, having a disqualified candidate appearing on the ballot in the General Election for the office of Nevada Attorney General.
- 28. Plaintiff seeks an order from this Court declaring Defendant KENNEDY's immediate disqualification from the ballot, under NRS 293. 2045(1)(a), and immediately removing him therefrom.
- 29. Plaintiff also seeks that each polling place shall post a sign where Defendant KENNEDY's name may appear on the ballot informing voters that he is disqualified from entering the upon the duties of the office in accordance with NRS 293.2045(b)(2).

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For attorney's fees and costs of suit;

## EXHIBIT "2"

RED'O & TILEO 2022 AUG 26 AM 10: 08 JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. 2 AUDREY ROYLATT Nevada Bar No.: 9033 CLERK JOEY GILBERT LAW BY K PETERSON 405 Marsh Ave. DECUIY Reno, Nevada 89509 Tel: (775) 284-7000 Fax: (775) 284-3809 5 Joey@joeygilbertlaw.com Counsel for Plaintiff 6 7 IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 8

OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR CARSON CITY

SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,

Plaintiff;

Plaintiff;

Vs.

BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE, JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual

Defendants.

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## PLAINTIFF'S APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND RELATED RELIEF

COMES NOW, Plaintiff, SIGAL CHATTAH by and through her attorney of record,

JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. of JOEY GILBERT LAW, and hereby moves this Court to issue a
temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction pursuant to Rule 65 of the Nevada Rules
of Civil Procedure retraining and preventing Defendants from taking the actions set forth below.

This Application and Motion is made and based upon N.R.C.P. 65, NRS 33,010, The Complaint and the Memorandum of Points and Authorities set forth herein, all Exhibits and the Affidavit attached hereto.

1	Dated this 26th day of August, 2022.
2	JOEY GILBERT LAW
3	By: // Meast Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq
4	Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW
5	405 Marsh Ave
6	Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 284-7000
7	Attorney for Plainiff
8	NOTICE OF MOTION ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME
9	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, will bring the foregoing Application for a
10	Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction on for hearing on the
11	day of, 2022 at the hour ofa.in./p.m. in the above-entitled Court, or
12	as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.
13	Submitted by:
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16	JOEY GILBERT LAW
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## DECLARATION OF SIGAL CHATTAH IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME

- This Declaration is based on my own personal knowledge of the matters to which
   I am competent to testify. As to those statements made upon information and belief, I believe
   those statements to be true.
  - 2. I am the Plaintiff in this matter.
- 3. This Application is made upon the basis that this Motion must be heard immediately as Defendants are in the process of printing ballots with a disqualified candidate appearing thereon as the candidate for Attorney General for the Libertarian Party.
- 4. This Declaration is in support of the subject Application is provided in accordance with NRCP 65(b).
- 5. The requirements are met under NRCP 65 to issue a TRO and hearing set in an expeditious manner as Plaintiff had requested this matter be resolved without proceeding to litigation a month ago.
- 6. Defendant John T. Kennedy does not meet the qualifications of NRS 228.010 requiring him to be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada. Defendant Kennedy is not a lawyer in Nevada, immediately disqualified from serving as the Attorney General of the State.
- Defendant Kennedy knowingly misrepresented he was qualified on his
   Declaration of Candidacy filed with the Secretary of State.
- 8. It is significant to note that the Secretary of State's office did not engage in verification of Kennedy's credentials with the State Bar of Nevada.

9. Despite being placed on Notice of Disqualification by filing a Complaint on July 26, 2022, the Secretary of State refused to resolve the matter and remove Defendant Kennedy from the ballot, instead issuing a correspondence that placed the burden to object to the qualifications of the candidate on myself.

7. That following passage of AB 321, universal mail in ballots will be issued and the remedy under NRS 293.2045, allowing for posting signs at polling locations will not affect those who will vote via mail in ballot, which will compromise the integrity of the election.

8. Due to the fact that mail in ballots are going to be in nine days, this Court must hear the matter in an expediter manner and enjoin the appearance of a disqualified candidate from the ballot.

 Under NRS 53.045, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foraging is true and correct.

Dated this \_\_26th\_th day of August, 2022.

SIGAL CHATTAH Affiant

## MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

On November 6, 2018, current Attorney General Aaron D. Ford was elected as Nevada's Attorney General by a margin of half a percentage point and currently remains the Nevada Attorney General. On or about March 17, 2022, Plaintiff, Chattah, filed with the Secretary of State her Declaration of Candidacy for the Office of Attorney General, to run against the incumbent Aaron Ford.

On June 16, 2022, Plaintiff prevailed in the Nevada GOP primary as the victor in the Attorney General race to proceed to the General Election against incumbent Ford.

Defendant JOHN T. KENNEDY, filed his Declaration of Candidacy, on behalf of the Libertarian Party of Nevada, in ordinary course with the Nevada Secretary of State. Included in the Declaration of Candidacy is the following language and statement, to wit:

"... that I will not violate any election law or any law defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State, that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any litigation prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this Sate concerning the number of years or terms for which a person may hold the office; that I understand that knowingly and willfully filing a declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement is a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor and also subjects me to a civil action disqualifying me from entering upon the duties of the office..." [Emphasis added]

To qualify for the office of Attorney General, the qualifications are found in NRS 228.010 entitled Qualifications which provides:

No person shall be eligible to the Office of Attorney General unless the person:

- 1. Has attained the age of 30 years at the time of such election;
- 2. Is a qualified elector and has been a citizen resident of this State for 3 years next preceding the election; and
- 3. Is a member of the State Bar of Nevada in good standing.

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 Plaintiff is a member in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada since 2002.

Defendant KENNEDY is not licensed as an attorney in the State of Nevada, nor is he a member of the State Bar in Nevada in good standing, nor does he qualify to be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada.

On July 26, 2022, Plaintiff notified Defendant CEGAVSKE's office that Defendant KENNEDY is not a member of the State Bar of Nevada by filing an Election Integrity

Complaint. On same day, Plaintiff also notified Nevada Attorney General's office and provided the office of the Nevada Attorney General the Election Integrity Complaint.

On August 17, 2022, Defendant, Secretary of State issue a correspondence that Plaintiff's time to object to a candidate qualification had expired on April 5, 2022 under NRS 193.182 and refused to take further action.<sup>2</sup> Defendant Secretary of State failed in her obligations to verify that Defendant Kennedy had in fact met the qualifications of NRS 228.010 to run for office, placing an onerous burden on Chattah to engage in such verification.

Additionally, the office of Nevada Attorney General's was notified of the disqualification of Defendant KENNEDY and also refused to take any subsequent remedial measures thereon. As noted *supra*, in the 2018 election, the margin for victory was less than half a point.

Having a disqualified candidate on the ballot poses a threat to the integrity of the election for the Office of Attorney General, and can compromise the margin of victory for qualified candidates in November, 2022.

<sup>1</sup> See Complaint attached herein as Exhibit "1"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Secretary of State Correspondence attached hereto as Exhibit "2"

 NRS 293,2045 entitled Remedies in preelection actions challenging candidates who fail to meet qualifications for office; disqualification from taking office; removal from ballot or notification to voters at polling places; applicability provides as follows:

- 1. In addition to any other remedy or penalty provided by law, but except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.1265, if a court of competent jurisdiction finds in any preelection action that a person who is a candidate for any office fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State:
- (a) The name of the person must not appear on any ballot for the election for which the person filed a declaration of candidacy, except that if the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the provisions of subsection 2 apply; and (b) The person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which the person filed a declaration of candidacy.
- 2. If the name of a person who is disqualified from entering upon the duties of an office pursuant to subsection 1 appears on a ballot for the election because the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the appropriate election officers shall post a sign at each polling place where the person's name will appear on the ballot informing voters that the person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office.
- 3. The provisions of this section apply to any preelection action brought to challenge a person who is a candidate for any office on the grounds that the person fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State, including, without limitation, any action brought pursuant to NRS 281.050, 293.182 or 293C.186 or any action brought for:
  - (a) Declaratory or injunctive relief pursuant to chapter 30 or 33 of NRS;
  - (b) Writ relief pursuant to chapter 34 of NRS; or
  - (c) Any other legal or equitable relief.

Following the complete lack of subsequent remedial measures taken by the Nevada Secretary of State and the Office of the Attorney General over the course of three weeks after being placed on notice, Plaintiff has no other recourse than to bring this action for proper adjudication by the judiciary in accordance with NRS 293.2045. Allowing a disqualified candidate remain on the ballot severely prejudices Plaintiff and the integrity of the election for the office of Nevada Attorney General.

## LEGAL ARGUMENT

A. PLAINTIFF IS SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE AND IRREPARABLE HARM AND DAMAGE AND IS THUS ENTITLED TO A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER.

A temporary restraining order should be issued pursuant to NRCP 65 where "it clearly appears from specific facts shown by affidavit or by the verified complaint that immediate and irreparable injury, loss or damage will result to the Plaintiff before the adverse party or that party's attorney can be hard in opposition." NRCP 65(b). Good cause for this application exists as Plaintiff is subject to suffering immediate and irreparable loss and damage as a result of Defendants' actions.

As the Secretary of State, Defendant Cegavske is the Chief Office of Elections for Nevada and is responsible for the execution, administration, and enforcement of the State's election laws. See NRS 293.124. She already knows that Mail In ballots are being printed in less than ten (10) days. She knows that following the passage of AB 321, every registered voter in Nevada will receive a Mail In ballot. She further <u>citrately knows</u> that a large percentage of individuals will likely be voting by Mail In ballot.

Put simply, Cegavske knows that having a disqualified on a Mail In ballot will have no recourse possible other than his removal for voters voting by mail. It is unfathomable that knowingly having a disqualified candidate on the ballot and a failure to take subsequent remedial measures to remove him therefrom is such a daunting task for the Chief officer of Elections in Nevada. It is further unfathomable that a qualified candidate is burdened with seeking Court intervention on such a simplistic measure to ensure election integrity be maintained in the State of Nevada.

A PRELIMNINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD BE GRANTED SINCE B. PLAINTIFF ENJOYS A REASONABLY PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS ON THE MERITS AND IS SUBJECT TO GREAT AND IRREPARABLE INJURY. N.R.C.P. 65 and NRS 33.010, authorize the Court to grant injunctive relief in the commission or continuance of an act that products great and irreparable injury to the Plaintiff. In relevant part, NRS 33.010, provides that an injunction may be granted under the following circumstances; 1) When it shall appear by the complaint that the plaintiff is entitle to The relief demanded, and such relief or any part thereof consists in restraining the commission or continuance of the act complained of, either for a limited period of perpetually. 2) When it shall appear by the complaint or affidavit that the commission or continuance of some act, during the litigation, would produce great or irreparable injury to plaintiff. 3) When it shall appear, during the litigation that the defendant is doing or threatens, or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering to be done, some act in violation of the plaintiff's rights respecting the subject of the action, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual. NRS 33.010 In Sobol v. Capital Managment Consultants, Inc., 102 Nev. 444, 726 P.2d (1986) the Nevada Supreme Court discussed the granting of preliminary injunctions and held: A preliminary injunction is available upon a showing that the party seeking it enjoys a reasonable probability of success on the merits and that the defendant's conduct, if allowed to continue, will result in irreparable harm for which compensatory damages is an adequate remedy. Id at 446. The Nevada Supreme Court has also permitted a reviewing court to consider the interest of public when considering an application for preliminary injunction, but certainly has never

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required such a consideration. See, Clark County School District v. Buchanan, 112 Nev. 1145,

 1150, 924 P.2d 716, 719 (1996). In Buchanan, the Nevada Supreme Court stated, "the district court may also weigh the public interest and the relative hardships of the parties in deciding whether to grant a preliminary injunction. Buchanon, 112 Nev. at 1150.

As stated in Buchanan, neither the public's interest nor the hardships of the party are a required element for the granting of a preliminary injunction. See, Id. In the instances where the public's interest has been reviewed as part of a party's request for preliminary injunction, the public's interest has been directly impacted by the granting or denial of a preliminary injunction. See, Id. (debate over the presence of a dog in the Clark County School District). See also, Ellis v. McDaniel, 95 Nev. 455, 459, 596 P.2d 222, 224-225 (1979)(availability to the public of an orthopedic surgeon's special skills despite the validity of a non-compete agreement).

The Ninth Circuit in the past set forth two separate sets of criteria for determining whether to grant preliminary injunctive relief: Under the traditional test, a plaintiff must show:

(1) a strong likelihood of success on the merits, (2) the possibility of irreparable injury to plaintiff if preliminary relief is not granted, (3) a balance of hardships favoring the plaintiff, and (4) advancement of the public interest (in certain cases). The alternative test requires that a plaintiff demonstrate either a combination of probable success on the merits and the possibility of irreparable injury or that serious questions are raised and the balance of hardships tips sharply in his favor. Taylor v. Westly, 488 F.3d 1197, 1200 (9th Cir. 2007). "These two formulations represent two points on a sliding scale in which the required degree of irreparable harm increases as the probability of success decreases." Id.

## A Preliminary Injunction Is Warranted As Plaintiff Enjoys A Reasonable Likelihood Of Success On The Merits.

As stated above, Defendant does not meet the qualifications of NRS 228.010. There is no merit to any objections that he does. Nor is there any merit to forcing Chattah to engage in this

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action when there should have been immediate action by both the Attorney General's office and Defendant Cegavske when Chattah placed them both on Notice of this disqualification.

Accordingly, Plaintiff enjoys a high likelihood of prevailing in this matter.

## 2. Plaintiff Will Suffer Irreparable Injury If An Injunction Is Not Granted.

The Supreme Court recently reiterated, however, that a plaintiff seeking an injunction must demonstrate that irreparable harm is "likely," not just possible. Winter v. NRDC, 555 U.S. 7, 129 S. Ct. 365, 374-76, 172 L. Ed. 2d 249 (2008) (rejecting the Ninth Circuits alternative "sliding scale" test). The Ninth Circuit has explicitly recognized that its "possibility" test was "definitively refuted" by Winter, and that "[t]he proper legal standard for preliminary injunctive relief requires a party to demonstrate 'that he is likely to succeed on the merits, that he is likely to suffer irreparable harm in the absence of preliminary relief, that the balance of equities tips in his favor, and that an injunction is in the public interest." Stormans, Inc. v. Selecky, 586 F.3d 1109, 1127 (9th Cir. 2009) (quoting Winter, 129 S. Ct. at 374) (reversing a district court's use of the Ninth Circuit's pre-Winter, "sliding-scale" standard and remanding for application of the proper standard).

A recent Ninth Circuit ruling relying largely on the dissenting opinion in Winter parsed the language of Winter and subsequent Ninth Circuit rulings and ruled that the sliding scale test remains viable when there is a lesser showing of likelihood of success on the merits amounting to "serious questions," but not when there is a lesser showing of likelihood of irreparable harm.

See Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Cottrell, 613 F.3d 960, 2010 WL 2926463, at 5-7 (9th Cir. 2010). As a preliminary matter, to the extent this interpretation of Winter is inconsistent with that in Selecky, Selecky controls. See Miller v. Gammie, 335 F.3d 889, 899 (9th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (holding that, in the absence of an intervening Supreme Court decision, only the en banc court may overrule a decision by a three-judge panel). In any case, the Supreme Court has made clear

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that a movant must show both "that he is likely to succeed on the merits [and] that he is likely to suffer irreparable harm in the absence of preliminary relief . . . ." Winter, 129 S. Ct. at 374 (citing Munaf v. Geren, 553 U.S. 674, 128 S. Ct. 2207, 2218-19, 171 L. Ed. 2d 1 (2008); Amoco Prod. Co. v. Gambell, 480 U.S. 531, 542, 107 S. Ct. 1396, 94 L. Ed. 2d 542 (1987); Weinberger v. Romero-Barcelo, 456 U.S. 305, 311-12, 102 S. Ct. 1798, 72 L. Ed. 2d 91 (1982)) (emphases added). To satisfy Winter; the movant must show that he is "likely" to succeed on the merits. To the extent the Cottrell court meant to imply that its "serious questions" standard was a lesser standard than "likely," it is inconsistent with Winter and Selecky. The Court must reconcile the cases by interpreting the Cottrell "serious questions" requirement to be in harmony with the Winter/Selecky "likelihood" standard, not as being in competition with it. The movant must therefore show that there are serious questions as to the merits of the case such that success on the merits is likely. A claim can be weaker on the merits if it raises "serious questions" and the amount of harm the injunction will prevent is very great, but the chance of success on the merits cannot be weaker than "likely."

If the injunction is not granted, it is unquestionable that Plaintiff will suffer irreparable injury as Plaintiff has a vested interest in fair election process with only qualified candidates to remain on the ballot. The fact that a disqualified candidate remain on the ballot and even obtain one vote in his favor compromises the integrity of the election process.

## 3. The Balance Of The Hardships Favor Plaintiff.

While this Court is not required to consider the balance of hardship between the parties, as noted supra, in 2018, Ford won his election by approximately 5,000 votes in the Statewide

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race for Nevada Attorney General against Republican Nominee Wes Duncan. The Third Party Candidate, Joel Hansen in 2018 received approximately 32,000 votes. <sup>3</sup>

It is not improbably that a Libertarian Candidate named John Kennedy will not receive votes and may in fact receive sufficient votes to create irreparable harm to the integrity of an election, if allowed to remain a disqualified candidate on the ballot.

## C. THE COURT SHOULD REQUIRE A MINIMAL BOND.

N.R.C.P. 65(c) requires Plaintifi: to post bond before the issuance of a Temporary

Restraining Order. A minimal bond is sufficient in this case because the granting of a

Temporary Restraining Order was the only option left for Plaintiff following a refusal by the

Attorney General and Secretary of State to take subsequent remedial measures will placed on

notice. Further, Defendant will not incur any damages herein as this is not a monetary action.

IV.

## CONCLUSION

Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant Plaintiff's Application for Temporary

Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and issue a Restraining Order

precluding Defendants from allowing the disqualified candidate John T. Kennedy from

remaining on the ballot.

Dated this 25th day of August, 2022.

Joey Gilbert Lav

Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq

Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW

> 405 Marsh Ave Reno, Nevada 89501

<sup>2</sup> Anron Ford - Ballotpedia

Tel: (775) 284-7000 Attorney for Plaint(f)

-14-

## EXHIBIT "1"



## STATE OF NEVADA

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE

101 N. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701

Phone: Fax:

778-884-5705 778-884-5718

nvalect@sos.nv.gov www.nveos.gov

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ELECTION INTEGRITY VIOLATION REPORT

The information you report on this form may be used to help us investigate violations of Nevada election laws. When completed, mail, email, or fax your form and supporting documents to the office fisted above. Upon receipt, your complaint will be reviewed by a member of our staff. The length of this process can vary depending on the circumstances and information you provide with your complaint. The Office of the Secretary of State may contact you if additional information is

INSTRUCTIONS: Please TYPE/PRINT your complaint in dark ink. You must write LEGIBLY. All fields MUST be completed.

SECTION 1.			
COMPLAINANT INFORMATION Salutation:	☐Mr. ☐Mrs, ☐Ms, ☐Miss		
Your Name: Chattah	Sigal		
Last Your Organization, if any:	First		ΜI
Your Address: 5875 S Rainbow Blvd #203	Las Vegas City	NV State	89118 Zlp
Your Phone Number : (702) 360-6200 (702) Home Cell		702643	
	Cell me between 8em-5pm a	t: Home [	☑Cell
SECTION 2.			
TYPE OF COMPLAINT			
Campaign Practices	Voter Fraud		<u> </u>
Campaign Practices Contributions / Expenses	Initiative / Referende	um Petition	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Campaign Practices Contributions / Expenses Voter Registration	· ·	um Petition	
Campaign Practices Contributions / Expenses	☐ Initiative / Referende	um Petition • Statement	

Complaint Form: Page 1 of 2

Rev: 06/01/2020

### SECTION 3.

## COMPLAINT IS AGAINST

Please detail the nature of your complaint. Include the name and contact information (if known) of the individual, candidate, campaign, or group that is the subject of your complaint. Your complaint must also include a clear and concise statement of facts sufficient to establish that the alleged violation occurred. Any relevant documents or other evidence that support your complaint should be listed and attached. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

John T Kennedy 1156 State Road, Wellington, NV, 89444 Jikennedy@gmail.com

NR9228.010 entitled Qualifications, provides that No person shall be eligible to the Office of Attorney General unless the person:

1. Has attained the age of 30 years at the time of such election;

2.Is a qualified elector and has been a citizen resident of this State for 3 years next preceding the election; and

3.is a member of the State Bar of Nevada in good standing.

A review of the State Bar of Nevada confirms that Mr. Kennedy is not licensed in the State of Nevada, nor a member of good standing herein. See State Ber Docs included herein

### SECTION 4.

Sign and date this form. The Secretary of State's Office cannot process any unsigned, incomplete, or illegible complaints. In order to resolve your complaint, we may send a copy of this form to the person or group about whom you are complaining.

I am filing this complaint to notify the Office of the Secretary of State of the activities of a particular candidate, campaign, individual or group. I understand that the information contained in this complaint may be used to establish violations of Nevada law in both private and public enforcement actions. I authorize the Office of the Secretary of State to send my complaint and supporting documents to the individual or group identified in this complaint.

By signing my name below, I certify under penalty of periuny that the information provided in this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Rev: 06/01/2020



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## Find a Lawyer

For the Public (https://nvbar.org/for-the-public/). Find a Lawyer

Search Attorneys... (eg. last name, bar #, company or city)

Search

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## Kennedy, Todd E.

Bar#: 6014

Member since: 10/14/1996

Stafus: ATTORNEY Active

Company: Kennedy & Couvillier (http://www.kelawnv.com)

3271 E. Warm Springs Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89120

Phone: (702) 605-3440

Fax: (702) 625-6367

Email: !!kennedy@kdownv.cam (mailtotkennedy@kdownv.cam)

Law school: California Western, School of Law

Disciplinary Actions:

d C

## Harmon Kennedy, Heather

Bar #: 11146

Member since: 10/14/2008

Status: ATTORNEY Inactive

Company: Harmon Kennedy PC (http://www.harmonkennedy.com).

233 Merchant St., Suite 120, Ambridge, PA 15003

Phone: (412) 501-3155

mal: heather@harmonkennedy.com (mailtatheather@harmonkennedy.com)

Law school: Drake University

Disciplinary Actions:

None.

## Kennedy, Kirk T.

**Bor#:** 5032 Member since: 10/4/1993 Status: ATTORNEY Active

Company: Law Office of Kirk T Kermedy

815 S. Casino Center Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89101

Phone: (702) 385-5534

Fax: (702) 385-1869

Law school: Cumberland School of Law

Disciplinary Actions:

1. Type: Order of transfer to 90 day Suspension

Effective Date: 10/24/14

Case Number: 65742

[View Document ] (https://www.nvbar.org/wp-

content/voloacis/Kennedy, Kirk. T. CGP: 90: Days. Suspension. 10. 24. 14. 97e22c7436766ee2bf5654a54898cc25.pdf).

2. Type: Public Reprimand

Filect: 02/26/16

Case No. SGII-1193

## Kennedy, Dennis L

Bar#:1462

Member since: 9/15/1975

Status: ATTORNEY Exempt

Active

Company: Bailey Kennedy, LIP (http://www.baileykennedy.com)

8984 Spanish Ridge Ave., Los Vegas, NV 89148

Phone: (702) 562-8820

Fox: (702) 562-8821

Email: dkennedy@boileykernedy.com (moilto:dkennedy@baileykennedy.com).

Law school: U. of Washington

Disciplinary Actions:

None

## Kennedy, Benjamin W.

Besr #: 9077

Member since: 10/20/2004

Status: ATTORNEY Active

Company. Dielánson Wright, PUC (http://www.dickinson-wright.com)

100 W. Liberty St., Suite 940, Reno, NV 89501

Phone: (775) 343-7500

Fox: (775) 786-0131

**Email : <u>bkermeky</u>@dickinsonwight.com (mailtabkennedy@dickinsonwight.com)**,

Law school: University of Montana

Disciplinary Actions:

## Kennedy, Jr., James B.

Bar#: 9078

Member since: 10/20/2004

Status: ATTORNEY Active

Company, James Kennedy, P.1.1.C. (http://www.spinjury.com)

6216 Gateway Blvd. East, El Paso, TX 79905

Phone: (915) 544-5200

Fax: (915) 532-2423

Frail:james@kennedywarksforyou.com (malitajames@kennedywarksforyou.com)

Law school: Texas Tech University

Disciplinary Actions:

•

None

## Kennedy, William A.

Bar#: 9365

Member since: 4/20/2005

Status: ATTORNEY Suspended

## Company. Law Office of William A. Kennedy

612 S. Third Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Phone: (702) 474-7000

Fax: (702) 474-4014

Enail: attorney/termedy@gmail.com (mailtoottomey/termedy@gmail.com).

Law school: Washburn University

## Disciplinary Actions:

1. Type: Suspension

Cose No.: 71326

Effective Date: 02/27/17

[View Document] (https://www.nvbar.org/wp-content/uploads/Pages-from-02-27-17-Notice-of-Service-to-the-Courts-William-Kennedy-

77328 pdf)

2 Type: Suspension

Case No.: 73805

Effective Date: 2/23/18

[View Document] (https://www.nvbar.org/wp-content/uploads/Pages-fram-02-26-18-Ntc-ta-Crts-Kennedy-W-73805,pdf)

## Kennedy, Michael J.

Bor#: 10103

Member since: 1/12/2007

Status: ATTORNEY Active

# company: Law Offices of Michael Jerome Kennedy, PLLC

333 Hint Street, Reno, NV 89501

Phone: (775) 221-7100

Fox: (775) 221-7101

Email: michoel@mjkennedylow.com (moiltomichoel@mjkennedylow.com)

Law school: University of Minnesota

## Disciplinary Actions:

None.

## John, Philip A.

Bar#: 10627

Member since: 10/16/2007

Status: ATTORNEY Active

Company: McCormick Barstow LIP (http://www.mccomickbarstow.com)

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Phone: (702) 949-1100

Fox: (702) 949-1101

Email: philip john@mccormickbarstow.com (mailtophilip John@mccormickbarstow.com)

Law school: University of San Francisco

Disciplinary Actions:

None.

# Kennedy, Fred W.

Bor#: 2269

**Member** since: 9/18/1974

Status: ATTORNEY Suspended

6T/ E Hoover, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Phone: (702) 496-5430

Fax: (702) 385-3225

Fmail: pkennedy54@aol.com (mailtapkennedy54@aol.com)

Law school: California Western, School of Law

Disciplinary Actions:

1. Type: Order of Suspension

Effective Date: 02/19/16

Case Number: 67305

[View Document] (https://www.nvbar.org/wp-content/uploads/Pages-from-03-10-16-Notice-to-Courts-Kennedy-Fred-67305.pdf)

2. Type: Public Reprimand

Effective Date: 03/14/16

Case No.: SGII-1345, SGI2-1534 and SGI3-1778

[ View Document ] (https://www.nvbar.org/wp-content/uploads/Kennedy-Fred-W.-PU-03-12-16.pdf)

# Kennedy, Dennis V.

Bar #; 2612

Member since: 3/12/1979

Status: ATTORNEY Suspended

Law school: U. of Washington

)

Disciplinary Actions:

None.

## John, Douglas S.

Bor 4: 8512

Member since: 9/25/2003

Status: ATTORNEY Active

Company: Frazer Ryan Goldberg & Amold (https://www.fragelow.com).

1850 N Central Avenue, #1800, PHOENIX, AZ 85004

Phone: (602) 277-2010

Fux: (602) 277-2595

Email: djohn@frgalaw.com (mailtoxijohn@frgalaw.com)

Law school: University of Arizona

Disciplinary Actions:

None.

# Kennedy, Jack Edward

Dar 4: 2127

Member since: 9/19/1977

Status: ATTORNEY Exempt

hactive

853 Divot Drive, Fernley, NV 89408

Phone: (775) 742-4251

Law school: McGeorge For: (775) 313-9636

Disciplinary Actions:

:

None.

# Kennedy, Judy C.

Bar#: 11093

Member since: 10/14/2008

Status: ATTORNEY Inactive

## EXHIBIT "2"

#### BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE Secretary of State

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SCOTT W. ANDERSON Chief Deputy Secretary of State

MARK A. WLASCHIN
Deputy Secretary for Elections

August 17, 2022

Signi Chattah
chattahlaw@gmail.com

Via Email

Re: Alleged Violation of Nevada Revised Statutes
File C22-314 SOS

Dear Sigal Chattah,

The Secretary of State's office has finished its review of the Election Integrity Violation Reports received July 26, 2022. Specifically, the allegation asserted that John Kennedy is not qualified to run for Attorney General.

Preelection candidate qualification challenges must be made within the timeframe pursuant to NRS 293.182. The last day to challenge a candidate's qualification was April 5, 2022. See NRS 293.177, NRS 293.182 and NRS 293.202. Contests of candidate eligibility filed post-election are governed by the timelines in NRS 293.413.

#### NR\$ 293.182 Written challenges concerning qualifications of candidates; enforcement in prediction actions.

- 1. After a person files a declaration of candidacy to be a candidate for an office, and not later than 5 days after the last day the person may withdraw his or her candidacy pursuant to <u>NRS 293,207</u>, an elector may file with the filing officer for the office a written challenge of the person on the grounds that the person falls to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State. Before accepting the challenge from the elector, the filing officer shall notify the elector that if the challenge is found by a court to be frivolous, the elector may be required to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and court costs of the person who is being challenged.
  - 2. A challenge filed pursuant to subsection 1 must:
  - (a) Indicate each qualification the person fails to meet;
  - (b) Have attached all documentation and avidence supporting the challenge; and
  - (c) Be in the form of an affidavit, signed by the elector under penalty of perjury.
  - 3. Upon receipt of a challenge pursuant to subsection 1:
  - (a) The Secretary of State shall immediately transmit the challenge to the Attorney General.
- (b) A filling officer other than the Secretary of State shall immediately transmit the challenge to the district attorney.
- 4. If the Attorney General or district attorney determines that probable cause exists to support the challenge, the Attorney General or district attorney shall, not later than 5 working days after receiving the challenge, petition a court of competent jurisdiction to order the person to appear before the court. Upon receipt of such a petition, the court shall enter an order directing the person to appear before the court at a hearing, at a time and place to be fixed by the court in the order, to show cause why the challenge is not valid. A certified copy of the order must be served upon the person. The court shall give priority to such proceedings over all other matters pending with the court, except for criminal proceedings.
- 5. If, at the hearing, the court determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the challenge is valid or that the person otherwise falls to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or laws of this State, or if the person falls to appear at the hearing, the person is subject to the provisions of NRS 293,2045.

NEVADA STATE CAPITOI. 101 N. Carion Binet, Sulie I Careon City, Nevada 89701-1714 RIEVERS ANNEX
CODIMERCIAL RECORDINOS
201 N CHAPT Steel
Compo City, Norda 69701-4101

LAS VEGAS OFFICE 2350 Las Vegas Bivd North, Suite eco Housh Las Vegas, NV 89030

PVIOLEGY

6. If, at the hearing, the court determines that the challenge is frivolous, the court may order the elector who filed the challenge to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and court costs of the person who was challenged.

The Secretary of State, as the Chief Election Officer for the State of Nevada, is responsible for enforcement of the election laws contained in Title 24 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. However, since your complaint was not lodged in accordance with NRS, the Secretary of State's office will take no action. As a result, no further action will be taken by this office and this file will be closed,

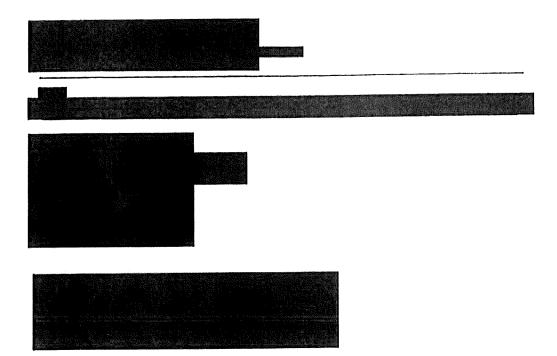
if you have any questions regarding this letter and the Secretary of State's determination in the matter, please contact the undersigned at (775) 684-7172 or saijwards@sos.nv.gov.

Respectfully,

Barbara K. Cegavska Sacretary of State

Sundra Edwards

Compliance Investigator



From: John T. Kennedy Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 3:12:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

To: SOS Customer Service < sosmall@sos.nv.gov>

Subject:

WARNEYO - This email originalist from quardo the State of Nevada, Exercise cambin when opening attochments as cheking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Barbara Cegavske Nevada Secretary of State,

I'm John Kennedy, the Libertarian Party candidate for Attorney General of Nevada. Today it came to my attention that I was not eligible to run for this office because I am not a member of the bar in Nevada. That being the case, I seek to withdraw my candidacy and be removed from the ballot. I have no intention of campaigning for an office I'm not eligible to run for.

I was unaware of this requirement until today. When I filed for my candidacy in your office I was interviewed by two members of your staff, one of whom asked me if I was a lawyer. I stated that I was not, but that it was my understanding that this was not a requirement to run for the office. She verbally confirmed to me that it was not a requirement.

John T. Kennedy

## EXHIBIT "3"

AARON FORD
Attorney General
Craig Newby, Esq. (Bar No. 8591)
Deputy Solicitor General
Office of the Attorney General
555 E. Washington Ave, Ste. 3900
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 486-3420 (phone)
(702) 486-3773 (fax)
cnewby@ag.nv.gov

AEC'U & FILED 2022 AUG 31 PM 1: 23 AUGREY ROWLATT AV S. BARAJAS

Attorneys for Defendant Barbara Cegavske

### IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR CARSON CITY

SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,

| Case No. 22 OC 00099 1B

Plaintiffs,

Dept. No. II

Piain

vs

BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE, JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual

Defendant.

RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S RENEWED APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND RELATED RELIEF

The Secretary of State submits the following response to Plaintiff's "Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Related Relief" (the "Application").

Page 1 of 10

#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. Introduction

 Plaintiff waited several months to challenge Defendant Kennedy's candidacy, missing both the deadline to have the Secretary to address the challenge and the statutory deadline for finalizing the 2022 general election ballot. The Legislature has determined the relief available for belated, yet meritorious challenges under NRS 293.2045. The Secretary, if this court determines that such relief is warranted, does not oppose it.

However, to the extent Plaintiff seeks extra-statutory relief to require the reprinting of ballots more than one month after the July 22 deadline, the Secretary opposes it.

#### II. Factual Background

### A. Background on the 2022 Election and Required Declaration of Candidacy

This election cycle, 1,227 candidates filed for Nevada elected office. Each candidate submitted a declaration of candidacy swearing that they "will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this State concerning the number of years or terms for which a person may hold the office." Each candidate does so with the understanding that "knowingly and willfully filing a declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement is a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor and also subjects me to a civil action disqualifying me from entering upon the duties of the office."

The Secretary, as Nevada's Chief Elections Officer, reasonably relies on the candidates' truthfulness within their respective declarations of candidacy, checked by the competitive incentives of opposing candidates to seek disqualification of those who are not qualified. This election cycle, the Secretary received two timely challenges, resulting in

Page 2 of 10

See Wlaschin Decl. (8/29/2023) at ¶ 2, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NRS 293.177(2).

<sup>3</sup> Id.
4Plaintiff's own political consultant acknowledged this last weekend. See https://muthstruths.com/heres-whos-really-to-blame-for-ineligible-candidates-appearing-on-the-ballot/ (last accessed August 29, 2023); https://muthstruths.com/nevada-gop-establishment-bring-us-the-head-of-sigal-chattah-part-

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<sup>7</sup> Compl. at ¶ 13.

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the removal of two candidates from the 2022 election. One was an unqualified candidate for the public office at issue in this case.6 Plaintiff's allegation that the Secretary has affirmative "obligations to verify" candidacies does not cite to Nevada statute and is contrary to the existing structure of candidate declarations and challenges.

#### The Libertarian Party's Candidate Filing, Including Defendant В. Kennedy

Similarly, for minor political parties, the Secretary reasonably relies upon filings by said political parties pursuant to Nevada statute. Defendant Kennedy is the Libertarian Party's candidate for Attorney General. NRS 293.1715(2) governs procedures for "minor political parties" such as the Libertarian Party to place candidates' names onto the ballot for the general election. Specifically, the "names of the candidates for partisan office of a minor political party must be placed on the ballot for the general election if the minor political party is qualified.8 Among other requirements, the minor political party "must have filed a list of its candidates for partisan office ... with the Secretary of State."9

#### Defendant Kennedy's Declaration of Candidacy is Admittedly Inaccurate

Here, the Libertarian Party did such a filing for its candidates, including for Defendant Kennedy. 10 Further, Defendant Kennedy filed his declaration of candidacy. 11 Defendant Kennedy has now admitted that his declaration of candidacy is inaccurate because he is not a Nevada attorney in good standing.12 Following Plaintiff's public

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ii/?fbclid=IwAR24gUIFUxpPdluWlikEKmHid:
5p alBzyivSdTnPy zlRZUxqeikHgyg&fbclid=IwAR24gUIFUxpPdluWlikEKmHid:
5p alBzyivSdTnPy zlRZUxqeikHgyg (acknowledging Plaintiff as a "new client"
                                                                                                                        "new client") (last
accessed August 29, 2022).
5 See Ex. A at ¶ 3.
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Id. (emphasis added). 9 Id. 10 A true and correct copy of the Libertarian Party filing is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
11 A true and correct copy of Defendant Kennedy's declaration of candidacy is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

<sup>12</sup> See Kennedy E-Mail (8/26/2023), a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

demands for absolute criminal prosecution, 13 Defendant Kennedy contends he did not know there was any such requirement.14

#### Standard of Review for Injunctive Relief III.

Injunctive relief is extraordinary relief. A "preliminary injunction is an extraordinary remedy that may only be awarded upon clear showing that the plaintiff is entitled to such relief."16 A "preliminary injunction is available if an applicant can show a likelihood of success on the merits and a reasonable probability the non-moving party's conduct, if allowed to continue, will cause irreparable harm."17 Even where a plaintiff makes those showings, a court may decline to order injunctive relief due to the potential hardship on each party and considerations of the public interest. 18 In cases like this one, where the party opposing injunctive relief is a government entity, the potential hardship and the public interest considerations are merged. 19

Review of the factors demonstrate that Plaintiff cannot meet their extraordinary burden at this time.

#### Legal Analysis IV.

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Plaintiff Missed the Deadline for Making an NRS 293.182 Challenge Addressable Directly by the Secretary

NRS 293.182 provided an April 5 deadline for anyone (including Plaintiff) to challenge Defendant Kennedy's candidacy to the Secretary, with potential referral and

13 See Chattah4Nevada Twitter posts (8/25/2023) (seeking the "absolute prosecution of Mr. Kennedy of a gross misdemeanor" by the current Attorney General). True and correct copies of these Chattah4Nevada Twitter posts are attached hereto as Exhibit E.

14 Ex. C. The Secretary vigorously disputes Defendant Kennedy's additional allegations

Page 4 of 10

regarding staff statements made when Defendant Kennedy completed his candidate declaration. Ex. A at ¶ 7. While the Secretary does not believe this fact dispute needs to be resolved to adjudicate this Renewed Application, the Secretary is prepared to present staff declarations and testimony as needed to rebut Defendant Kennedy's further inaccurate statements.

Statements.

16 Dep't of Conservation & Nat. Res., Div. of Water Res. v. Foley, 121 Nev. 77, 80, 109 P.3d 760, 762 (2005).

16 Winter v. Nat. Res. Def Council, Inc., 555 U.S. 7, 22 (2008), see also NRS 33.010(1).

17 Clark Cty. Sch. Dist. v. Buchanan, 112 Nev. 1146, 1149, 924 P.2d 716, 719 (1996).

18 Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. Nevadans for Sound Gov't, 120 Nev. 712, 721 (2004).

19 Nken v. Holder, 556 U.S. 418, 435 (2009).

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investigation by law enforcement. It is undisputed that Plaintiff made no such timely challenge.

Because no timely challenge was made, the Secretary lacked statutory authority to use the NRS 293.182 process to consider removing Defendant Kennedy from the 2022 election. In that context, the Secretary lacked authority to take any of the "subsequent remedial measures" Plaintiff desired because Plaintiffs challenge was untimely.20 Any allegation made by the Application to the contrary is untrue and unlikely to succeed on the merits, such that it warrants injunctive relief.

Plaintiff may have the Ability to Seek NRS 293.2045 Relief from this B. Court, not the Secretary

Plaintiff now alternatively seeks relief in this case pursuant to NRS 293.2045, which provides a court of competent jurisdiction (not the Secretary nor any other official) the authority to award certain specific statutory relief.21

However, Plaintiff is limited in the NRS 293.2045 relief they can be awarded by this court, because Plaintiff missed the statutory deadline for revising the ballot for the general election.22 That deadline was July'22, 2022, days before Plaintiff submitted her initial complaint to the Secretary<sup>23</sup> and more than one month before filing this lawsuit.<sup>24</sup>

Pursuant to the plain language of NRS 293.2045, if successful on this challenge, Plaintiff is eligible for the following relief:

- Defendant Kennedy should be "disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which [he] filed a declaration of candidacy."25
- The Secretary will ensure that "the appropriate election officers shall post a sign at each polling place where the person's name will appear on the ballot informing voters that the person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office."28

<sup>20</sup> Compl. at ¶ 18. 21 The Secretary does not take a position on the merits of the fraud claim against Defendant Kennedy or any potential referral for criminal investigation.

22 See App. at 7:7.8 (immediately following bolded text).

<sup>25</sup> Compl. at ¶ 10: 24 NRS 293.165(4). 25 NRS 293.2045(1)(b). 28 NRS 293.2045(2).

Page 5 of 10

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The Secretary does not oppose the imposition of this statutory relief only should the court deem it warranted.

Plaintiff does not have the Statutory Authority to Modify the Ballot Deadline, Making the Likelihood of Success Low on that Claim for C. Relief

However, to the extent sought here, Plaintiff is not entitled to an injunction forcing the Secretary to make changes to the ballot after the July 22 deadline. The Legislature has set forth the available relief for the situation Plaintiff alleges here and specifically precludes removing disqualified names from the ballot after this deadline.27

Similarly, the Legislature has set forth the relief allowed to qualified minor political parties had this challenge been made prior to the July 22 deadline. Specifically, had Plaintiff made a timely challenge, "the executive committee of the [Libertarian Party]" would have the statutory authority to designate a substitute candidate for Defendant Kennedy.28 Plaintiffs belated challenge results in the Libertarian Party having no qualified candidate on the ballot for this statewide office.

Accordingly, Plaintiff is unlikely to succeed on the merite of its claim that the ballot modification deadline should be ignored.

The Public Interest, as Expressed by the Legislature, Warrants D. Denial of the Application

Even if Plaintiff was likely to succeed on the merits of the Application, this court may decline to order injunctive relief due to the potential hardship on each party and considerations of the public interest.29

When weighing the public interest, this court must consider Plaintiff's own inaction when determining whether extraordinary relief at great logistical expense and cost is warranted. Delay seeking injunctive relief warranted denial of it, implying it is not irreparable.30 Here, basic due diligence by Plaintiff to bring a timely complaint would have

<sup>27</sup> NRS 293.2045(1)(a).

<sup>28</sup> NRS 293.165(1).
29 Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. Nevadans for Sound Gov't, 120 Nev. 712, 721 (2004).
29 Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. Nevadans for Sound Gov't, 120 Nev. 712, 721 (2004).
30 See Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long See Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1377 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1374 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1374 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1374 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1374 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland Tribune, Inc v. Chronicle Pub's Co., 762 F.2d 1374, 1374 ("Plaintiff's long see Oakland See Oa

delay before seeking a preliminary injunction implies a lack of urgency and irreparable

prevented her asserted harm. Instead, without statutory support, Plaintiff claims it is the Secretary's job to investigate every candidate that already averred their candidacies are truthful and valid, even under threat of a potential gross misdemeanor.

Weighed against Plaintiff's harm is the definite and certain harm to Nevadans resulting from reformulating and reprinting ballots approved as to form more than one month ago. 31 The Secretary estimates that reformulating and reprinting ballots would cost approximately \$2.7 million. 32 Further, the Legislature weighed this exact balance of harms between a candidate running against someone unqualified versus the Secretary's logistical time and costs when delineating relief available 1) before the ballot deadline and 2) after the ballot deadline. No good cause exists for undoing this weighing of the public interest here.

Finally, in the alternative, should Plaintiff convince this court to ignore the Legislature's directive as to reprinting ballots after the existing July 22 deadline, the same deadline should be extended to allow the Libertarian Party, should it wish, to exercise its NRS 293.165(1) rights to name a replacement candidate for this office.

#### v. CONCLUSION

Should the court determine the challenge has merit and that Plaintiff can seek such relief, the Secretary submits that the Legislature specified the appropriate relief in NRS 293.2405(1)(b) and NRS 293.2045(2), based on the untimeliness of Plaintiff's complaint relative to the statutory deadline for revising the general election ballot.

,,,

32 Id.

23 |

harm."); Garcia v. Google, Inc., 786 F.3d 733, 746 (9th Cir. 2015); Fund for Animals v. Frizzell, 530 F.2d 982, 987 (D.C. Cir. 1975) (finding a 44-day delay in seeking injunctive relief to be "inexcusable"). That reason alone justifies denying the TRO application.

31 Ex. A at § 8.

Page 7 of 10

In the alternative, should this court ignore the Legislature's prescribed statutory relief and consider modifying the July 22 ballot deadline for purposes of removing Defendant Kennedy, the same July 22 deadline should be modified for the Libertarian Party's statutory right to name a substitute, qualified candidate.

DATED this 31 day of August, 2022.

AARON D. FORD
Attorney General

By:

Graig Newby, Esq. (Bar No. 8591)

Graig Newby, Esq. (Bar No. 8591) Deputy Solicitor General Attorneys for Defendant Barbara Cegauske

Page 8 of 10

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#### **AFFIRMATION**

#### Pursuant to NRS 239B.030/603A.040

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain "Personal Information" and agrees that upon filing of additional documents in the above matter, an Affirmation will be provided ONLY if the document contains a social security number (NRS 239B.030) or "personal information" (NRS 603A.040), which means a natural person's first name of first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following data elements:

- 1. Social Security number.
- 2. Drivers license number, driver authorization card number or identification card number.
- 3. Account number credit card number or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to the person's financial account.
- 4. A medical identification number or a health insurance identification number.
- 5. A user name, unique identifier or electronic mail address in combination with a password, access code or security question and answer that would permit access to an online account.

The term does not include publicly available information that is lawfully made available to the general public.

DATED this 31 day of August 2022.

AARON D. FORD

Attorney General

Ofoig Newby, Esq. (Bar No. 8591) Deputy Solicitor General

Altorneys for Defendant Barbara Cegauske

Page 9 of 10

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of the Office of the Attorney General, State of Nevada, and that on the 31st day of August, 2022, I deposited for mailing in the United States Mail, first-class postage prepaid, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, addressed to the following:

JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. 405 Marsh Ave. Reno, Nevada 89509 Attorney for Sigal Chattah

JOHN T. KENNEDY 1166 Slate Road Wellington, NV 89444

An employee of the Office

of the Nevada Attorney General

Page 10 of 10

## EXHIBIT "A"

## EXHIBIT "A"

Page 1 of 3

28

 received more than one challenge to the candidacy of Stuart Mackie, asserting that Mr. Mackie did not qualify to run for Attorney General because he was not a member of the State Bar in good standing. The challenge to Mr. Mackie resulted in his disqualification by order of the Third Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, filed April 28, 2022.

- 4. The Libertarian Party submitted a list of its candidates for partisan office with the Secretary of State by filing dated March 7, 2022. A true and correct copy of that filing is attached to the Response to Plaintiff's Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Related Relief ("Response") as Exhibit B.
- 5. John T. Kennedy filed with the Secretary of State a declaration of candidacy for the office of Attorney General for the 2022 Election, dated March 10, 2022. A true and correct copy of that declaration is attached to the Response as Exhibit C.
- 6. On August 26, 2022, the Secretary of State received an email from Mr. Kennedy. A true and correct copy of that email is attached to the Response as Exhibit D. In that email, Mr. Kennedy states, "When I filed for my candidacy in your office I was interviewed by two members of your staff, one of whom asked me if I was a lawyer. I stated that I was not, but that it was my understanding that this was not a requirement to run for the office. She verbally confirmed to me that it was not a requirement."
- 7. Following receipt of Mr. Kennedy's email, I investigated his allegations by speaking with the likely two staff members he described. I am not identifying them by name to preserve their personal privacy. Based on my initial investigation, the Secretary of State disputes Mr. Kennedy's statement in his August 26, 2022 email that any member of the Secretary of State's staff discussed candidate qualifications with him.
- 8. The deadline to make changes to the ballot across the state was between August 15 and August 22, 2022. Ballots and sample ballot proofs are already being printed to meet statutory deadlines.
- 9. Based on an examination of previous ballot expenditures, I estimate that reformulating and reprinting ballots would cost approximately \$2.7 million.

Furthermore, I estimate that it would cost approximately \$330,000 to mail a separate notice to mail ballot recipients notifying them of Mr. Kennedy's disqualification. Pursuant to NRS 53.045, I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 31 day of Avgust 2022. 

## EXHIBIT "B"

### EXHIBIT "B"



7 March 2022

Barbara Cegavske Nevada Secretary of State 101 N. Carson Street, Suite 3 Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Ms. Cegavske & who it may concern with the Elections Division,
The Libertarian Party of Nevada has approved the following individuals to run for Partisan Public Offices:

#### United States Senate

Neil Scott 3150 Soft Breezes Dr., Apt. 1220 Las Vegas, Nevada 69128

#### United States Congressional District 1

Kenneth Cavanaugh 4800 Vegas Valley Dr., Trir 179 Las Vegas, Nevada 89121

#### United States Congressional District 2

Darryl Baber 7259 Goldrush Dr., Ryndon, Nevada 89801

#### Lieutenant Governor

Javi Tachiquin 1484 Mary Jo Dr. Gardnerville, Nevada 89460

#### Secretary of State

Ross Crane 9461 Ashlee Ridge Ave Las Vegas, Nevada 89178

#### Treasurer

Bryan Elliott 10204 Orkiney Dr. Las Vegas, Nevada 89144

#### Controller

Jed William Profeta 9068 National Park Dr. Las Vegas, Nevada 89178

#### Attorney General

John T. Kennedy 1166 Slate Road Wellington, Nevada 89444

#### State Senate District 9

Anna Sosnina 7379 Fort McDermitt Ave Las Vegas, Nevada 89179

#### State Senate District 10

Christopher Cunningham 3150 W. Twain Ave, Apt 545 Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

#### State Senate District 16

Jeff Harper 375 Manciano Way Reno, Nevada 89521

#### State Senate District 20

Brandon Mills 1319 Yucca St. Boulder City, Nevada 89005

#### State Assembly District 2

Jason Bednarz 10008 Bow Ridge Ct. Las Vegas, Nevada 89145

#### State Assembly District 5

Ron Morgan 1616 Cordoba Canyon St. Las Vegas, Nevada 89117

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA
www.i.PNovada.org | Phone: 725.217,5376 | P.O. Box 70974, Las Vegas, NV 89170



State Assembly District 10

Brandon Fenimore 3257 Pampas Pl. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

State Assembly District 20

Josiah L. LaRow 2050 Irwin Cir. Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

State Assembly District 23

Mercy Manley 1296 Black Mountain Ct. Boulder City, Nevada 89005

State Assembly District 26

Reed Mitchell 9792 Quartette Dr. Reno, Nevada 89521

State Assembly District 30

Garrett McGeein 884 Glen Molly Dr. Sparks, Nevada 89434

State Assembly District 35

Mindy Robinson 5620 Benevento Ct. Las Vegas, Nevada 89141 State Assembly District 37

Marc Tedoff 9100 Ballad Ave Las Vegas, Nevada 89129

State Assembly District 40

Samuel Toll 1757 Main St. Gold Hill, Nevada 89440

State Assembly District 41

Sean McNamara 306 Maddelena Ave Las Vegas, Nevada 89183

Clark County Commissioner District G

Jesse Welsh 942 Westminster Ave Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Washoe County Commissioner District 2

David Banuelos 4608 Neil Rd. #259 Reno, NV 89502

We certify the foregoing to be a true and correct list of Candidates chosen by the Libertarian Party of Nevada as prescribed by NRS and the LPN Bylaws.

Katharine Banuelos

Secretary, Libertarian Party of Nevada

State of Nevada

County of NAShOL

This instrument was acknowledged

before me on

03-01-7022 by Kathanne E.

Panuelos

A Communication of the Communi

(signature of notarial officer)

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEVADA

www.LPNevada.org | Phone: 725.217.5376 | P.O. Box 70974, Las Vegas, NV 89170

## EXHIBIT "C"

## EXHIBIT "C"

#### 2022 Election

#### State of Nevada Declaration of Candidacy of

John T. Kenneddy

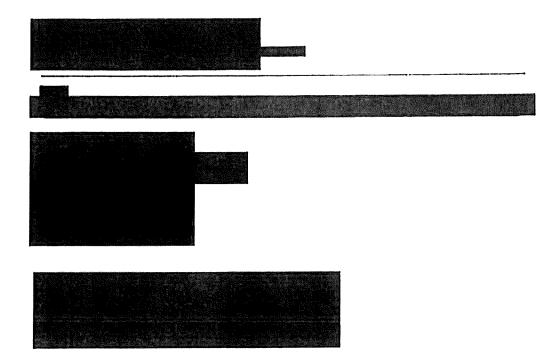
#### For the Office of

Attorney General

Minor Political Party - Partisan Office	ce ·	Secretary of State Barbara K. Cogavsko
STATE OF NEVADA		
COUNTY OF Carson City		
For the purpose of having my name placed	on the official ballot as a candidate for th	ne Libertarian
Party nomination for the office of	Attorney General	, I, the undersigned
John T. Kennedy	, do swear or affirm under pena	alty of perjury that I actually, as opposed to
constructively, reside at	State of the second second second second	, in the City or Town of
Wellington , County of	Douglas , State of Nevada;	that my actual, as opposed to constructive,
residence in the State, district, county, town		
date at least 30 days immediately preceding		
telephone number is		receive mall, if different than my
residence, is		; that I am registered as a member of the
Libertarian Party; th	at I am a qualified elector pursuant to S	ection 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of
have not, in violation of the provision of NRS affiliation on an official application to registe election; that I generally believe in and in political party in the coming election; that at the ensuing election, I will accept that non any law defining and prohibiting corrupt at qualify for the office if elected thereto, inc. Constitution and laws of this State concern understand that knowingly and willfully filling punishable as a gross misdemeanor and duties of the office; and that I understand the	er to vote in any state since December tend to support the concepts found in if nominated as a candidate of the mination and not withdraw; that I will not not fraudulent practices in campaigns luding, but not limited to, complying witing the number of years or terms for via declaration of candidacy which contains subjects me to a civil action disquiso subjects me to a civil action disquisited.	31 before the closing filing date for this in the principles and policies of that Libertarian Party it knowingly violate any election law or and elections in this State; that I will with any limitation prescribed by the which a person may hold the office; that I tains a false statement is a crime qualifying me from entering upon the
Signature of candidate for office	Subscribed	and awarn or affirmed to before me this 10th
John T. Kennedy	day of the r	month of March of the year 20 22
Designation of name to appear on ballot		•
John T. Kennedy		John T. Kennedy Name of Candidate
Designation of name to appear on certificate of ele	action //	1 100.
jikennedy@gmail.com	_ &	us fan Kuypes
EL1036 E-mail address (optional) NRS 293 177 Revised, 2/10/2022	Notary Pu	ubile ar other person authorized to administer an eath

## EXHIBIT "D"

### EXHIBIT "D"



From: John T. Kennedy Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 3:12:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: SOS Customer Service <sosmail@sos.nv.gov>
Subject:

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevalla, Exercise caution when opening attachments or cheking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Barbara Cegavske Nevada Secretary of State,

I'm John Kennedy, the Libertarian Party candidate for Attorney General of Nevada. Today it came to my attention that I was not eligible to run for this office because I am not a member of the bar in Nevada. That being the case, I seek to withdraw my candidacy and be removed from the ballot. I have no intention of campaigning for an office I'm not eligible to run for.

I was unaware of this requirement until today. When I filed for my candidacy in your office I was Interviewed by two members of your staff, one of whom asked me if I was a lawyer. I stated that I was not, but that It was my understanding that this was not a requirement to run for the office. She verbally confirmed to me that It was not a requirement.

John T. Kennedy

## EXHIBIT "4"

4.	Each	Nevada	county	contracts	for	mail	ballots	to	be	printed	by	outside
vendors, v	who then	print an	d mail t	he assemb	led.	mail b	allots t	o ac	ctive	e registe	red	Nevada
voters wit	thin that	county.										

- 5. Understanding the urgency of this request, I have inquired with each Nevada county on this question.
- 6. Additionally, I understand that certain Nevada counties contract with Runbeck Election Services for mail ballot services.
- 7. Runbeck Election Services provided me an estimate of \$179,520 without tax and shipment for providing such an insert for Clark County, Carson City, Humboldt County, White Pine County, and maybe Nye County.
- 8. The deadline Runbeck Election Services has for doing such an insert for said counties is no later than Wednesday, September 7th.
- 9. Washoe County provided me with an estimate of \$30,909.06 to put a notice in its mail ballots from its mail ballot vendor.
- 10. For Elko County, I was informed that they would not have information to respond to my request until next week.
- 11. For Lincoln County, I was informed that they did not information from their vendor with which to respond to my request until next week.
- 12. In short, on the Friday prior to the Labor Day Weekend, it is not possible for the Secretary to know whether all Nevada counties could timely add the additional sheet with information to each mail ballot, and, if so, what the approximate cost would be. Pursuant to NRS 53.045, I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 2nd day of September, 2022.

<u>/s/Mark Wlaschin</u> MARK WLASCHIN

## EXHIBIT "5"

	1				
1	RPLY				
2	JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ.				
	Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW				
3	405 Marsh Ave.				
4	Reno, Nevada 89509 Tel: (775) 284-7000				
5	Fax: (775) 284-3809				
6	locy@jocygilbertlaw.com Counsel for Plaintiff				
7					
,	IN THE FIRST JUDIO	CIAL DISTRICT COURT			
8	OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR CARSON CITY				
9	OF THE STATE OF NEVAL	A IN AND FOR CARSON CITY			
10	SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,				
11	Plaintiff,	Case No: 220C00091B			
	)	Dept No.: II			
12	vs.				
13	BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF				
14	STATE, JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual				
15	Defendants,				
16	Defendants,				
16					
17	PLAINTIFF'S REPLY TO RESPONSE	TO APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY			
18		FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND ED RELIEF			
19	,	AND THE PARTY OF T			
50	COMES NOW, Plaintiff, SIGAL CHA	TTAH by and through her attorney of record,			
21	JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. of JOEY GILBERT LAW, and hereby submits the foregoing				
22	Reply to Response Motion for temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction pursuant to				
23	Rule 65 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure	e retraining and preventing Defendants from			
24	taking the actions set forth below.				
25					

This Reply and the Memorandum of Points and Authorities set forth herein, all Exhibits and any oral arguments to be made at the time of hearing. Dated this 6th day of September, 2022. JOEY GILBERT LAW Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW 405 Marsh Ave Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 284-7000 Attorney for Plaintiff 

#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

Defendants' Response to Plaintiff's request attempt to shift the burden of NRS 293.124 on Chattah. NRS 293.124<sup>1</sup> specifically states that the Secretary of State is responsible for the execution and enforcement of state laws relating to elections in this state, including NRS 228.010, which requires a candidate for Nevada Attorney General to be a member of the State Bar of Nevada in good standing. It is conclusive at this time that Defendant John T. Kennedy is neither.

q

Further, this Court required Defendants to provide proof of costs to modify the mail in ballots. It is most significant to note that nowhere in Wlaschkin's Affidavit does he confirm that the ballots have been printed. They have not. In fact, there is also no evidence of any contract or payment to have the ballots printed yet, allowing the modification of the ballots easily without the State incurring unnecessary costs.

Most important though is the fact that Defendants have known since Chattah filed her Complaint on July 26, 2022 that Kennedy was a disqualified candidate. Wlashkins Affidavit specifically states that the time to make the changes to the ballot was between August 15 and August 22, 2022, almost a month after the Secretary of State was placed on notice of Kennedy's disqualification and chose to ignore it.

NRS 293.124 obligated the Secretary of State to make the changes to the ballot after being placed on notice that Kennedy was disqualified under NRS 228.010. She chose to do

NRS 293.124 Secretary of State to serve as Chief Officer of Elections; regulations.

The Secretary of State shall serve as the Chief Officer of Elections for this State. As Chief Officer, the Secretary of State is responsible for the execution and enforcement of the provisions of title 24 of NRS and all other provisions of state and federal law relating to elections in this State.

<sup>2.</sup> The Secretary of State shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

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24 25 neither and now seeks to shift the burden of inaction on a Candidate that is not deputized to enforce election laws under NRS .124.

### NRS 293.2045 PROVIDES NO ADEQUATE REMEDY FOR CHATTAH<sup>2</sup>

NRS 293.2045 does not contemplate the changes to Nevada's elections brought by AB 321, in 2021 allowing for Universal Mail In Ballots. In 2022, Nevada's Primary Election Results demonstrate that 266,057 (56.7%) percent of total voters voted by Mail In Ballots. Therefore, the recourse allowable under NRS 293.2045 in posting signs at all polling locations would have no effect on a disqualified candidate appearing on mail in ballots, which would conclusively prejudice Chattah in the Attorney General race.

Accordingly, the only remedy to ensure that a contested election does not occur due to a disqualified candidate appearing on every mail in ballot in Nevada and unfairly prejudicing a qualified candidate, is to simply have him removed from the ballot.

#### CONCLUSION

At this juncture, Defendants provided no proof that the mail in ballots have been printed. They have known of the disqualified candidate since July 26, 2022, and refused to modify the ballot, eliminating the disqualified candidate between August 15-22, 2022, pursuant to their own deadline.

It is only Defendant Cegavske's obligation as Nevada Secretary of State to enforce all election laws including candidate disqualification under NRS 293,124. The failure to enforce NRS 228.010 lies solely at the hands of Defendant Cegavske.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NRS 293.2045 (b)(2) provides "If the name of a person who is disqualified from entering upon the duties of an office pursuant to subsection I appears on a ballot for the election because the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the appropriate election officers shall post a sign at each polling place where the person's name will appear on the ballot informing voters that the person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Voter Turnout - Nevada Secretary of State 2022 Primary Election Results (nv.gov)

Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant Plaintiff's Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and issue a Restraining Order precluding Defendants from allowing the disqualified candidate John T. Kennedy from remaining on the ballot and appearing on mail in ballots. As noted *supra*, the alternative would simply compromise the integrity of the election, unfairly prejudice a qualified candidate running for office and guarantee an election contest following the General Election.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2022.

JOEY GILBERT LAW

By: / Re Ce 1957;

Royar O'Ocareti Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 9033

JOEY GILBERT LAW

405 Marsh Ave

Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 284-7000

Attorney for Plaintiff

-5-

# EXHIBIT "6"

1 2 3 4 5	JOSEPH S. GILBERT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW 405 Marsh Ave. Reno, Nevada 89509 Tel: (775) 284-7000 Fax: (775) 284-3809 Joey@joeygilbertlaw.com Counsel for Plaintiff	ACC'D & FILED  2022 SEP -7 PM 1: 56  AUSBEY ROWLATT  BY S. BARAJAS INC.  BERUTY	
7	IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT		
8	OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR CARSON CITY		
9	SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,		
10	Plaintiff,	Case No: 22OC00091B	
11	vs.	Dept No.: II	
12	BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official		
13 14	capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF ) STATE, JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual )		
15	Defendants.		
16			
17	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER		
18	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 7th day of September, 2022, the Court entered an		
19	Order Denying Renewed Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Motion for		
20	Preliminary Injunction and Related Relief. A copy of said Order is attached hereto.		
21	AFFIRMATION PURS	SUANT TO NRS 239B.030	
22	The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain		
23	///	,	
24	///		
25	///		

the social security number of any person. DATED this 7th day of September, 2022. JOEY GILBERT LAW Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 9033 JOEY GILBERT LAW 405 Marsh Ave Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 284-7000 Attorney for Plaintiff 

## 1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify I am an employee of JOEY GILBERT LAW, 3 and on the below date, I served the foregoing document on the parties set forth below by: 4 via the Court's Electronic Filing Service; by placing the original, or a true copy thereof, in a sealed envelope placed for 5 mailing in the USPS, in Reno, NV, postage prepaid, following ordinary business 6 practices; via facsimile (Fax) to 7 x via email to - CNewby@ag.nv.gov & nlawrence@vegascase.com via overnight delivery 8 personal delivery 9 to the following: 10 Craig Newby, Esq. 11 Office of the Attorney General 100 North Carson Street 12 Carson City, NV 89701 13 Nathan Lawrence, Esq. Gallian Welker, & Beckstrom, LC 540 E. St., Louis Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104 16 DATED this 7th day of September, 2022. 17 JOEY GILBERT LAW 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

2022 SEP -7 AM 10: 35

BY\_\_\_\_

IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR CARSON CITY

-oOo-

SIGAL CHATTAH, an individual,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO. 22 OC 00099 1B

DEPT. 2

BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE; JOHN T. KENNEDY, an individual.

Defendants.

ORDER DENYING RENEWED APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND RELATED RELIEF

#### PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

Before the Court is Sigal Chattah's Renewed Application for Temporary
Restraining Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Related Relief, Secretary
of State Barbara Cegavske's response and supplemental response, and Chattah's reply.
Defendant, John T. Kennedy, did not file a response. The Court held three conferences
with counsel Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. for Sigal Chattah, Craig Newby, Esq. for Secretary
of State Cegavske, and Nathan Lawrence, Esq. for John T. Kennedy. The parties
consented to the Court determining the request for a temporary restraining order on the
pleadings and papers submitted by the Court and the arguments made during the
conferences, and without an evidentiary hearing.

SC0077

#### **ISSUES**

Has Chattah shown that she is entitled to a temporary restraining order?

Has Chattah shown that the commission or continuance of some act, during the litigation, would produce great or irreparable injury to her?

Has Chattah shown that during the litigation, the Secretary of State is doing or threatens, or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering to be done, some act in violation of Chattah's rights respecting her general election race, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual?

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

The following facts are undisputed.

Chattah is a candidate for attorney general in the upcoming general election.

On March 10, 2022 John T. Kennedy filed his declaration of candidacy for the office of attorney general as a member of the Libertarian Party. The legislature, in NRS 293.177(2), established the language for the declaration of candidacy. As part of his Declaration Kennedy swore or affirmed under penalty of perjury "that [he] will qualify for the office if elected thereto." To qualify for the office of attorney general a candidate must be at least 30 years old, be a qualified elector (defined by the Nevada Constitution in Article 2, section 1 as: a citizen of the United States; who shall have actually, and not constructively, resided in Nevada six months; and in the district or county 30 days next preceding any election; not convicted of treason or felony in any state or territory of the United States, unless restored to civil rights; and not have been adjudicated mentally incompetent, unless restored to legal capacity); a citizen resident of Nevada for 3 years, and a member of the State Bar of Nevada in good standing. NRS 228.010(3). Kennedy is not a member of the State Bar of Nevada in good standing so he does not qualify for the office of attorney general.

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On July 26, 2022 Chattah filed with the Secretary of State's Office an Election Integrity Complaint in which she stated that Kennedy is not qualified to be attorney general because he is not a member of the State Bar of Nevada. Under NRS 293.165(4) "no change may be made on the ballot for the general election after 5 p. m. on the fourth Friday in July of the year in which the general election is held." The fourth Friday in July was the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Preelection candidate qualification challenges must be filed not later than 5 days after the last day the person may withdraw his candidacy under NRS 293.182(1). A withdrawal of candidacy must be submitted within 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the last day for filing. NRS 293.182(1). The last day for filing is the second Friday after the first Monday in March. NRS 293.177(1)(b).

The timeline is:

March 10, 2022

Kennedy filed his declaration of candidacy

March 25, 2022

Last day to file declaration of candidacy

April 5, 2022

Last day to withdraw candidacy

April 11, 2022

Last day to file preelection candidate qualification challenges

July 22, 2022

Deadline for changing the ballot

July 26, 2022

Chattah filed preelection candidate qualification challenge

Chattah filed her preelection candidate qualification challenge 105 days after the statutory deadline for challenges, and 4 days after the deadline to change the general election ballot.

#### **ANALYSIS**

Chattah blames the Secretary of State for failing to investigate Kennedy's qualifications and cites NRS 293.124 to support her argument. NRS 293.124(1)

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 provides: "The Secretary of State shall serve as the Chief Officer of Elections for this State. As Chief Officer, the Secretary of State is responsible for the execution and enforcement of the provisions of title 24 of NRS...."

The Secretary countered that the legislature intended that electors file qualification challenges and cited NRS 293.182 for support. That statute provides in pertinent part:

- 1. After a person files a declaration of candidacy... an elector may file with the [Secretary of State] a written challenge of the person on the grounds that the person fails to meet any qualification required for the office....
- 2. A challenge filed pursuant to subsection 1 must:
- (a) Indicate each qualification the person fails to meet;
- (b) Have attached all documentation and evidence supporting the challenge; and
- (c) Be in the form of an affidavit, signed by the elector under penalty of perjury.
- 3. Upon receipt of a challenge pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) The Secretary of State shall immediately transmit the challenge to the Attorney General.

The Court agrees with the Secretary. Under NRS 293.177(1) a candidate must file a declaration of candidacy on a form that must include, under penalty of perjury, that, among other things, the candidate "will qualify for the office if elected thereto." Kennedy did that in this case. The statutes do not expressly or implicitly require the Secretary of State to investigate every qualification of every candidate, or any qualification of any candidate. Under NRS 293.182(1) an elector may file a qualification challenge and under 293.182(3) the Secretary of State's obligation is to process, not investigate, the challenge.

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The legislature, in NRS 293.2045(2), established the procedure for handling a disqualified candidate's name on the ballot. Under that statute if the name appears on a ballot because the statutory deadline for making changes to the ballot has passed, the appropriate election officers shall post a sign at each polling place where the person's name will appear on the ballot informing voters that the person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office." NRS 293.2045(2) addresses ballots cast at polling places, it does not address mail ballots. But NRS 293.2045(3), which applies in "any preelection action brought to challenge a person who is a candidate for any office on the grounds that the person fails to meet any qualification required for the office" including, without limitation, any action brought for declaratory or injunctive relief or any other legal or equitable relief. Chattah is seeking injunctive relief.

Under NRS 33.010, and injunction may be granted:

- 1. When it shall appear by the complaint that the plaintiff is entitled to the relief demanded, and such relief or any part thereof consists in restraining the commission or continuance of the act complained of, either for a limited period or perpetually.
- 2. When it shall appear by the complaint or affidavit that the commission or continuance of some act, during the litigation, would produce great or irreparable injury to the plaintiff.
- 3. When it shall appear, during the litigation, that the defendant is doing or threatens, or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering to he done, some act in violation of the plaintiff's rights respecting the subject of the action, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual.

There are four factors the Court must consider in deciding whether injunctive relief is appropriate: (1) the threat of irreparable harm; (2) the relative interests of the parties; (3) the moving party's likelihood of success on the merits; and (4) the interest of the public. NRS 33.010, NRCP 65, and Number One Rent-A-Car v. Ramada Inns, Inc., 94 Nev. 779, 587 P.2d 1329 (1978).

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## (1) The threat of irreparable harm

If mail voters know that Kennedy is disqualified and votes for Kennedy will not be counted, those voters may vote for Chattah, but Chattah has not shown, under any standard of proof, that having Kennedy's name on the ballot will negatively affect the outcome of her attorney general race, the allegation is speculation.

The irreparable harm factor is also affected by the fact that Chattah filed her preelection candidate qualification challenge 105 days after the statutory deadline, and 4 days after the deadline to change the general election ballot. A timely challenge by Chattah could have avoided the present scenario.

## (2) The relative interests of the parties

Chattah has an interest in having voters informed that Kennedy is disqualified and that a vote for Kennedy will not be counted, so electors can decide which, if any, qualified candidate to vote for.

The Secretary of State has an interest in having candidates and electors timely comply with election statutes. The Secretary of State has an interest in not spending taxpayer dollars to correct a failure of a party to timely file preelection candidate qualification challenges. If the Court orders the Secretary to direct the county elections officials to print on the mail ballot, or include an insert with mail ballots, under the facts and circumstances of this case, there will be no incentive for a candidate or any elector to comply with the statutes by timely filing a preelection candidate qualification challenge because they will be able to file an action for an injunction up to 105 days after the preelection candidate qualification challenge deadline and up to 4 days after the deadline for changing the ballot.

# (3) The moving party's likelihood of success on the merits

It is not reasonably likely that Chattah will prevail on her request to take Kennedy's name off the ballot, or in the alternative, to include a notice of Kennedy's

disqualification with the mail ballots because of her extremely late filing of her preelection candidate qualification challenge.

# (4) The interest of the public

The public has an interest in having every legally cast ballot counted. Every elector has an interest in knowing who the candidates are. A disqualified candidate is not a candidate, so failure to give notice to mail voters that Kennedy is disqualified affects those voters' interests in knowing who the candidates are and that a vote for Kennedy will not be counted.

The public has an interest in having the Secretary of State, candidates and electors comply with the election statutes. The public has an interest in not paying for ballot corrective action caused by a very late filing of a preelection candidate qualification challenge.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Court has carefully considered and weighed the factors for granting a restraining order.

The fact that Chattah filed her preelection candidate qualification challenge 105 days after the deadline and 4 days after the deadline for changing the ballot undermines her request for a restraining order.

Chattah has not shown, under any standard of proof, that she is entitled to a temporary restraining order.

Chattah has not shown, under any standard of proof, that the commission or continuance of some act, during the litigation, would produce great or irreparable injury to her.

Chattah has not shown, under any standard of proof, that during the litigation, the Secretary of State is doing or threatens, or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering

to be done, some act in violation of Chattah's rights respecting her general election race, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual.

THE COURT ORDERS:

Sigal Chattah's Application and Renewed Application for Temporary Restraining
Order and Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Related Relief is denied.

If a party wants an evidentiary hearing on the request for a preliminary injunction he or she must file and serve an immediate request to set a hearing and include in the request a specific description of the facts the party believes are relevant and disputed.

 James E. Wilson, Jr. District Judge

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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 I certify that I am an employee of the First Judicial District Court of Nevada; that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2022, I served a copy of this document by placing a true copy in an envelope addressed to:

Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. 405 Marsh Ave. Reno, NV 89509 joey@joeygilbertlaw.com	Craig Newby, Esq. Office of the Attorney General 555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, NV 89101 cnewby@ag.nv.gov
	Nathan Lawrence, Esq. GALLIAN WELKER & BECKSTROM, L.C. 540 East St. Louis Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104 nlawrence@vegascase.com tbarrick@vegascase.com

the envelope sealed and then deposited in the Court's central mailing basket in the court clerk's office for delivery to the USPS at 1111 South Roop Street, Carson City, Nevada, for mailing.

Billie Shadron Judicial Assistant

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of the First Judicial District Court of Nevada; that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2022, I served a copy of this document by placing a true copy in an envelope addressed to:

Joseph S. Gilbert, Esq. 405 Marsh Ave. Reno, NV 89509 joey@joeygilbertlaw.com	Craig Newby, Esq. Office of the Attorney General 555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, NV 89101 cnewby@ag.nv.gov  Nathan Lawrence, Esq. GALLIAN WELKER & BECKSTROM, L.C. 540 East St. Louis Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89104 nlawrence@vegascase.com tbarrick@vegascase.com
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Billie Shadron
Judicial Assistant

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