### Written Testimony to the Ohio Redistricting Commission Tuesday, September 26, 2023 (10:00 a.m.)

The Ohio Redistricting Commission (Commission) has failed in its Ohio Constitutionally required obligations and duties under Article XI, Section 9. These obligations and duties were approved by over 70% of the Ohio voters, *twice*. This is not my opinion. Both the Ohio Supreme Court, multiple times, and a Federal District Court, determined in their orders to the Commission, that the Commission failed in its Constitutionally required obligation and duties.

In an order filed by the Ohio Supreme Court, it sought to sanction members of the Commission for their intentional and willful disregard of their constitutionally required obligation and duties. Based on what appears to have been a lack of clear authority, and the threats of Ohio legislative bodies to impeach the Chief Justice, the sanctions were not levied.

Every member of the Commission previously took, and has recently taken sworn Oaths of Office on September 13, 2023, as follows:

"I, [*Commission Member Name*], do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God."

Yet even after the Commission was given clear guidance by the Ohio Supreme Court and the Federal District Court that the multiple redistricting maps previously adopted by the Commission were unconstitutional, the Commission has now placed for consideration a draft map dated September 20, 2023, that without question is also unconstitutional under the prior Ohio Supreme Court's orders.

The true measure of any person, in the situation where they are given great power over others, and in this case, approximately twelve million Ohioans, where only their integrity, honesty, honor and trust is there to guide them, they divorce themselves of personal schemes and actions. Rather they fulfill their duty and obligations under their oaths to Ohioans and the Ohio Constitution based on their integrity and honesty.

There is no question what the Commission should do now. And it is not to rely upon faulty reasoning and a lack of integrity to "justify" taking action contrary to the prior Court orders. The Commission has no right or authority to adopt any redistricting map that is contrary to the prior Court orders. That is because the Ohio Supreme Court had the sole and exclusive authority to determine what made a constitutional map. Ignoring the prior orders and adopting a map as the draft submitted, that is clearly unconstitutional, is probably a breach of the Oath of Office that each Commission Member took on September 13, 2023.

Kevin C. O'Neil Resident of the State of Ohio

Delivered Via Email info@redistricting.ohio.gov; testimony@redistricting.ohio.gov

I, Mike DeWine, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

mader

Mike DeWine

# STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

Frank LaRose Secretary of State of the State of Ohio



I, Frank LaRose, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

Frank LaRose

# STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN



Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio

I, Keith Faber, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

# STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

tout

Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio



I, Nickie J. Antonio, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

Antonio Nickie J.

# STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN



Dun

Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio

I, Jeff LaRe, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

Jeff LaRe

## STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

n't Dew me

Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio



I, Rob McColley, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

**Rob McColley** 

## STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN



Youn

Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio

I, C. Allison Russo, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office, as a Member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission on which I serve pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution. This I shall do as I shall answer unto God.

C. Allison Russo

# STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN



Mike DeWine Governor of the State of Ohio