IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TALLAHASSEE DIVISION

Case No.:

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Defendant.		
		/

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendant, the Florida Secretary of State Detzner, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441-1446 and Northern District of Florida Local Rule 7.2, hereby gives notice of removal of this action from the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit, in and for Leon County, Florida, to this Court. As grounds for removal, the Secretary states as follows:

1. This action was commenced in the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit, in and for Leon County, Florida, as Case No. 2018 CA 002445, by the filing of a Complaint against the Secretary. A copy of the Complaint is

attached as Exhibit A.

- 2. The Complaint brings a claim for violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. *See* Exhibit A at ¶¶21-25.
- 3. As a result of this claim, this is a case arising under the laws of the United States over which this Court has original jurisdiction, and which is removable without regard to the citizenship of the parties. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441. The remaining claims are within the Court's supplemental jurisdiction. Regardless, the entire action may be removed. 28 U.S.C. § 1441(c)(1).
- 4. The Northern District of Florida, Tallahassee Division, embraces the place where the state court action is pending. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a); N.D. Fla. Loc. R. 3.1(A)(3).
- 5. The Secretary is simultaneously filing a Notice of Removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d) with the Clerk of the Court for the Circuit Court in and for Leon County, Florida, and giving written notice to all other parties.
- 6. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446 and Northern District of Florida Local Rule 7.2, true and legible copies of all process, pleadings, motions, and orders served upon the Secretary, or otherwise on file in the state court, are attached as composite Exhibit B.

Respectfully submitted by:

BRADLEY R. MCVAY (FBN 79034)

Interim General Counsel
brad.mcvay@dos.myflorida.com

ASHLEY E. DAVIS (FBN 48032)

Deputy General Counsel
ashley.davis@dos.myflorida.com

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

R.A. Gray Building Suite, 100
500 South Bronough Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
(850) 245-6536 / (850) 245-6127 (fax)

/s/ Gary V. Perko

MOHAMMAD O. JAZIL (FBN 72556)

mjazil@hgslaw.com

GARY V. PERKO (FBN 855898)

gperko@hgslaw.com

MALCOLM N. MEANS (FBN 0127586)

mmeans@hgslaw.com

HOPPING GREEN & SAMS, P.A.

119 South Monroe Street, Suite 300

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

(850) 222-7500 / (850) 224-8551 (fax)

Dated: November 16, 2018 Counsel for the Secretary of State

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served through the Court's CM/ECF system to all counsel of record this 16th day of November, 2018:

/s/ Gary V. Perko
Attorney



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

CASE NO.

2018 CA 002445

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT FOR EMERGENCY INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF

Plaintiff, Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate ("Plaintiff"), through undersigned counsel, brings this suit against Ken Detzner ("Detzner"), in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State; the Palm Beach County Canvassing Board ("Board"); and Susan M. Bucher ("Bucher"), in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections (collectively, "Defendants"), and alleges:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is a lawsuit for declaratory and injunctive relief under Fla. Stat. §§ 86.011 and 26.012(2)(c), over which this Court has jurisdiction. This lawsuit seeks declaratory and injunctive relief for violations of the United States Constitution and Florida statutory law.
- 2. Venue is proper in Leon County, Florida, under Fla. Stat. § 47.011 because the Secretary of State is a party to this action and the Florida Department of State maintains its

principal place of business in Leon County, and because all or part of the claims for relief at issue in this litigation arose in Leon County.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate, is a duly organized political campaign in support of Bill Nelson's election to the United States Senate, representing the State of Florida. Plaintiff's interests in enforcing Florida's election laws, and ensuring a fair election, are adversely affected by the conduct complained of below.
- 4. Defendant Ken Detzner is sued in his official capacity as Secretary of State of the State of Florida. Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 97.012, the Secretary of State is the chief elections officer of the State and is therefore responsible for the administration of state laws affecting voting, including with respect to the general election held on November 6, 2018. As Secretary of State, Defendant Detzner's duties consist, among other things, of "[o]btain[ing] and maintain[ing] uniformity in the interpretation and implementation of the election laws." *Id.* at § 97.012(1). The Secretary of State is also tasked with ensuring that county supervisors of elections perform their statutory duties, *see id.* at 97.012(14), is responsible for providing technical assistance to county supervisors of elections on voting systems, *see id.* at 97.012(5), and is responsible for "[p]roviding written direction and opinions to the supervisors of elections on the performance of their official duties with respect to the Florida Election Code or rules adopted by the Department of State." *Id.* at 97.012(16).
- 5. Defendant Palm Beach County Canvassing Board was convened pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141. Under Florida law, it oversees the canvassing of ballots from the November 6, 2018 general election conducted in Palm Beach County, Florida, and the conduct of any recounts ordered by the Secretary of State.

6. Defendant Susan M. Bucher is the elected Supervisor of Elections in Palm Beach County, Florida, pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 98.015. She has the duty to conduct the national, state and local elections for Palm Beach County, including the general election held on November 6, 2018. Under Florida law, Defendant Bucher is responsible for administering voting within Palm Beach County. *See, e.g.*, Fla. Stat. §§ 100.031, 100.032.

STATEMENT OF FACTS AND LAW

7. The candidates for U.S. Senator from Florida are currently separated by a mere .15% of more than 8 million votes cast in the November 6, 2018 election. As a result, the Secretary of State has declared a machine recount of the U.S. Senate race pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7). The machine recount is currently underway (or has been completed) in all 67 Florida counties, save one: Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach County Abandons its Machine Recount

- 8. Palm Beach County has experienced repeated problems with its machine recount. Machines used to recount votes have persistently overheated, malfunctioned and required replacement parts. *See, e.g.*, https://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/20181114/bucher-on-prayer-mode-as-thursday-deadline-nears. Defendant Bucher had repeatedly predicted it would be impossible to finish the machine recount by the Thursday, November 15 3 p.m. deadline established by Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c). *See* https://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article221648390.html.
- 9. The prospect of a missed deadline is now a certainty. At approximately 7:30 p.m. on November 14, 2018, Defendant Bucher announced that she was closing down the canvassing room, thereby ceasing the machine recount process entirely. *See* Affidavit of Imran Siddiqui (attached hereto as Exhibit A) at \P 9. At that time, the recount stopped completely, and all staff

and observers were dismissed from the canvassing room. *Id.* Also on November 14, 2018, in separate litigation pending in the United states District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Defendants Bucher and the Board stated that "it is physically impossible" for them to recount and certify the U.S. Senate race and other races subject to recount within the time prescribed by the Florida statutes. *See* Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections' Response to Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction in *Jim Bonfiglio Campaign v. Detzner*, No. 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS (N.D. Fla.), at "Procedural Background and Uncontested Facts," ¶ 8 (attached hereto as Ex. B) (hereinafter "Supervisor's Response").

The Manual Recount Process

- by one-quarter of a percent or less of the votes cast for the office, "a manual recount of the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic jurisdiction of such office" must be ordered by the Secretary of State—but only if certain conditions are met. Fla. Stat. § 102.166(1). Specifically, a manual recount is ordered *unless* the "number of overvotes and undervotes is fewer than the number of votes needed to change the outcome of the election." *Id.* In short, the very premise of a manual recount is that the results of the election may ride on counting additional ballots.
- Given the razor-thin margin separating the two candidates for United States Senate ($see \ \ 7$, supra), that race is almost certain to go to a statewide manual recount once Florida's counties complete their machine recounts. That is true even if Palm Beach County does not complete a machine recount, and instead reverts to the initial unofficial results that it reported before the machine recount commenced, pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c).
 - 12. A manual recount is a review by hand of the "overvotes and undervotes from the

machine recount." Fla. Admin. Code r. 1S-2.031(5)(a). An "undervote" is a ballot on which "the elector does not properly designate any choice for an office or ballot question, and the tabulator records no vote for the office or question or that the elector designated less than the number of choices allowed for the office and the tabulator records those choices. *This definition may be altered based upon the individual characteristics of each voting system and how the system accounts for blank ballots.*" *Id.* § 1S-2.031(1)(j) (emphasis added). Functionally, at this point *all* of Palm Beach County's ballots are "undervotes" under the regulation, because its tabulators have recorded no votes for the office. And the regulation gives explicit license to vary the definition of "undervote" based on "the individual characteristics of each voting system." In this circumstance, when the machines are simply unable to function, all of Palm Beach County's ballots are "undervotes." Under the current deadlines, all of those undervotes must be counted by noon on Sunday, November 15th, 2018. See *id.* 1S-2.031(2)(c); Fla. Stat. § 102.112.

Defendants Cannot Simply Refuse to Count Votes Cast by Citizens of Palm Beach County

- 13. With a statewide manual recount looming, Defendants have a non-discretionary duty, under both the Florida statutes and the United States Constitution, to count the votes validly cast in the United States Senate race by the citizens of Palm Beach County.
- 14. Under the Florida statutes, even if a county canvassing board cannot meet the November 15 3 p.m. machine recount deadline, "the canvassing board shall complete the recount prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount prescribed in [Fla. Stat. § 102.166], and certify election returns in accordance with the requirements of this chapter." Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c); see also Fla. Stat. § 102.66(1) (where statutory requirements are met, "a manual recount of the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic jurisdiction of such office ... shall be ordered"). Moreover, county canvassing boards must certify that the election returns

filed with the Department of State include "all valid votes cast in the election." Fla. Stat. § 102.112(1).

Palm Beach County as a result of equipment difficulties, thereby devaluing their votes vis-à-vis voters in Florida's other counties. That is not just a statutory mandate, but a constitutional imperative. "The right to vote is protected in more than the initial allocation of the franchise. Equal protection applies as well to the manner of its exercise. Having once granted the right to vote on equal terms, the State may not, by later arbitrary and disparate treatment, value one person's vote over that of another." Bush v. Gore, 531 U.S. 98, 104-05 (2000) (emphasis added). "It has been repeatedly recognized that all qualified voters have a constitutionally protected right to vote and to have their votes counted." Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533, 554 (1964) (emphasis added, citations omitted). The rights to vote and to have one's vote counted are fundamental. Any action by Defendants to simply stop counting votes, or any reading of Florida's statutes that would permit prioritization of arbitrary administrative deadlines above these fundamental rights, is unconstitutional.

Defendants Should Be Immediately Ordered to Conduct a Full Hand Recount with Resources Sufficient to Complete the Recount by Sunday at Noon

16. The voting machines used in Palm Beach County are capable of processing approximately 1,000 ballots per hour, but because of their age they cannot operate 24 hours a day. Supervisor's Response at ¶ 6. In addition, Palm Beach County voting machines are a different, older model than the machines used in the rest of Florida. *Id.* at ¶ 7. Moreover, although there are three statewide races and one local race that must be recounted in Palm Beach County, *id.* at ¶¶ 5-6, the machines are only capable of recounting one race at a time. *Id.* at ¶ 7. At most, only eight machines can be operated to recount votes. *Id.* And as discussed *supra* at ¶¶

8-9, the machines have broken down repeatedly and are unreliable. A machine recount is no longer a viable or reliable alternative for protecting Palm Beach County's voters from suffering irreparable injury or for safeguarding the public interest.

17. In the November 6, 2018 election, approximately 600,000 electors cast ballots in Palm Beach County. Supervisor's Response at ¶ 5. Assuming a manual recount is declared in Florida's United States Senate race, Defendants Bucher and the Board should be ordered to immediately begin a full hand recount of all the ballots cast in that race in Palm Beach County and to apply whatever resources are necessary to complete the recount. The relevant statutory deadlines should be extended to accommodate the hand recount. A hand recount will permit all Palm Beach County electors to have their ballots lawfully counted and is the only way to protect both them and the broader public interest from suffering irreparable injury. This procedure will also satisfy the requirement of Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1), which require a manual recount and a certification including *all* valid votes cast in the election. It will also ensure that the constitutional rights of Palm Beach County's voters are protected and vindicated.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT I

(Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1))

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 17 of this Complaint.
- 19. When the statutory requirements for a manual recount are met, state and county election authorities, including Defendants here, have a mandatory and non-discretionary duty to conduct one. *See* Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1).

20. Given the inability of Defendants to conduct a meaningful, timely or reliable machine recount, the only practicable way for Defendants to comply with this statutory mandate and protect the voters of Palm Beach County from direct and irreparable injury is to immediately conduct a full hand recount. The relevant statutory deadlines should be extended to accommodate the hand recount.

COUNT II

(Equal Protection, U.S. Const. Amend. XIV)

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 20 of this Complaint.
- 22. The Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits a state from "deny[ing] to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1. This constitutional provision requires "that all persons similarly situated should be treated alike." *City of Cleburne v. Cleburn Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432, 439 (1985); *see also Bush*, 531 U.S. at 104-05.
- 23. Here, the refusal of election officials in one county among 66 others to count votes, or to do so only in a manner proven to be wholly unreliable, will subject similarly situated voters to differing standards based on their county of residence.
- 24. Voters who cast valid votes and reside in a county that is logistically capable of completing the recount process—including a manual recount—will have their votes for U.S. Senator counted, even if a vote was originally rejected as an overvote or and undervote, or for some other reason. By contrast, similarly situated voters who reside in Palm Beach County will have their vote left uncounted.
 - 25. Defendants' decision to stop counting votes, or to use only demonstrably

ineffective and unreliable means to do so, does not further any legitimate state interest, much less a compelling state interest narrowly tailored, that is sufficiently weighty to justify the disparate treatment of voters. Any interpretation of Florida's statutes that would require such a result is likewise wanting for failure to satisfy this exacting standard.

PRAYER FOR EMERGENCY DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- 26. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 24 of this Complaint. Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court:
 - (a) Immediately set a hearing to address the issues raised in this Complaint;
- (b) Declare unlawful Defendants' decision to stop counting votes in Palm Beach County, or to use only demonstrably ineffective and unreliable means to do so;
- (c) Enter an injunction ordering and compelling Defendants to immediately conduct a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate as soon as a manual recount in that contests is declared by the Secretary of State and to apply resources sufficient to ensure that it is completed;
- (d) Declare that Palm Beach County must be afforded an opportunity to complete a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate, notwithstanding any deadlines imposed by Florida law;
- (e) Preliminarily and permanently enjoin enforcement of any deadlines in Florida law that would prevent Palm Beach County from completing a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate; and
 - (f) Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 15, 2018 By: /s/ Catherine Darlson

Ronald G. Meyer Florida Bar No. 0148248

Email: rmeyer@meyerbrookslaw.com

Jennifer S. Blohm

Florida Bar No. 0106290

Email: jblohm@meyerbrookslaw.com MEYER, BROOKS, DEMMA AND

BLOHM, P.A.

131 North Gadsden Street Post Office Box 1547

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1547 Telephone: (850) 878-5212 Facsimile: (850) 656-6750

John J. Uustal Florida Bar No. 73547 Catherine C. Darlson Florida Bar No. 112440 KELLEY/UUSTAL 500 N Federal Highway Suite 200 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Telephone: (954) 522-6601

Marc E. Elias*
Alexander G. Tischenko*
PERKINS COIE LLP
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3960
Telephone: (202) 654-6200
Facsimile: (202) 654-6211

David L. Anstaett*
PERKINS COIE LLP
One East Main Street
Suite 201
Madison, WI 53703-5118
Telephone: 608.663.7460
Facsimile: 608.663.7499

Kevin J. Hamilton*
PERKINS COIE LLP
1201 Third Avenue
Suite 4900
Seattle, Washington 98101-3099

Telephone: (206) 359-8741

Attorneys for Plaintiff Nelson for Senate *Seeking Pro Hac Vice Admission

EXHIBIT A

AFFIDAVIT OF IMRAN SIDDIQUI

- 1. My name is Imran Siddiqui, being sworn I certify that I am over the age of 18 and of sound mind. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and can competently testify to their truth.
- On November 12th, 13th and 14th 2018, I physically attended and observed the
 Palm Beach County machine recount in connection with the 2018 general election.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Palm Beach County is using eight tabulating machines to conduct the machine recount of the race for United States Senate. The eight machines are very old and no other county in Florida still uses the same type of tabulating machine being used by Palm Beach County.
- 4. During the machine recount, I have observed ongoing technical difficulties with the eight machines. During the period I was present at the machine recount, at least one technical expert was brought in to attempt to remedy functionality issues with one or more of the machines.
- 5. Upon information and belief, on November 13th, 2018 the eight tabulating machines appeared to be stressed and breaking down, causing concern as to whether the machines would prevent Palm Beach County from being able to accurately and timely complete the recount. At approximately 9:40 p.m. on November 13, 2018, I personally observed Susan Bucher, Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, make an announcement that she was unable to verify that the machines were tabulating ballots properly and needed to stop the machine recount to re-tabulate approximately 170,00 early vote ballots. The process of re-tabulating the early vote ballots began on the evening of November 13, 2018.

- 6. Upon information and belief, Palm Beach County finished the re-tabulation of the early vote ballots around 12:00 p.m. on November 14, 2018. At this point, the recount stopped completely and all eight machines sat idle. Observers, including myself, and members of the media were told that Palm Beach County officials were working to reconcile the results of the retabulation of the early vote ballots.
- 7. Upon information and belief, around 2:00 or 3:00 p.m. on November 14, 2018, Palm Beach County began using one machine and one staff member to continue tabulating ballots. The seven remaining machines continued to sit idle.
- 8. Around 7:30 p.m. on November 14, 2018, I personally observed Susan Bucher announce that she was closing down the canvassing room, thereby ceasing the machine recounting process entirely. The recount stopped completely, and all staff and observers were dismissed from the canvassing room. Upon information and belief, the reason for the complete stop of operations appeared to be due to the inability of Susan Bucher and the Palm Beach County Canvassing Board to establish confidence in the accuracy of the results being produced by Palm Beach County's tabulating machines.
 - 9. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: November 15, 2018 Mran Siddiqui STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF Palm Black Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on November 15.2018 by Imran Anf. Sidd. 901 NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK Channiel J Ellis [Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary or clerk.] CHANNIEL J. ELLIS Notary Public, State of Florida Commission# GG 213562 My comm. expires May 2, 2022

EXHIBIT B

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TALLAHASSEE DIVISION

JIM BONFIGLIO CAMPAIGN, and JIM BONFIGLIO, individually as an elector of House District 89,

Plaintiff, Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Detend	ants.		
			,

PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTION'S RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Defendants, the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD (Board), and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections (Bucher), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby file this Response to Plaintiff Jim Bonfiglio Campaign's and Plaintiff Jim Bonfiglio's (collectively, "Bonfiglio") Motion for Preliminary Injunction, and in support state:

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND AND UNCONTESTED FACTS

1. On November 12, 2018, Bonfiglio filed an Emergency Motion for Injunctive Relief to Extend Certification Deadlines as Mandated by Florida Statutes § 102.41 and § 102.112 and to Proceed to the Machine and Manual Recounts of the Florida House of Representative District 89 Election (Motion) in the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County, Florida.

- 2. On November 13, 2018, Bonfiglio filed an Amended Verified Complaint for Emergency Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (Complaint), also in the Second Judicial Circuit.
- 3. On November 13, 2018, Defendant Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner (Detzner) filed a notice of removal of this action from the Second Judicial Circuit to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida.
- 4. Bucher and the Board agree on the key applicable facts of this case, as summarized below.
- 5. In the General Election held in November, 2018, approximately 600,000 electors cast ballots in Palm Beach County. The ballots included races for the office of United States Senator, Governor of Florida, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, and Florida State House Representative for District 89, among others.
- 6. The unofficial results first certified indicated a recount is required for all four of the above-listed races. The number of recounts resulting from this election

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fitald 1/1/6/4/98 Page 3 of 19

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

is unprecedented. Regarding the race for Florida State House Representative for

District 89 (D-89 Race) specifically, on November 10, 2018, Detzner ordered a

machine recount of the votes. Each machine is capable of processing approximately

1,000 ballots per hour. However, due to the age of these machines, they cannot

operate 24 hours a day.

7. The voting machines used in Palm Beach County are a different, older

model than the machines used in the rest of the state. The Palm Beach County voting

machines are only capable of recounting a single race at a time. At most, only 8

machines can be operated to recount votes.

8. Due to the limitations of the Palm Beach County voting machines, it is

physically impossible for Bucher and the Board to recount and certify the races

within the time prescribed by § 102.112, Florida Statutes.

9. Florida Statute 101.151 governs the order candidates appear on a ballot.

Using this statute as a guide, and relying on the order in which Order of Machine

Recounts was received from the Secretary of State, the Board ordered the races to

be recounted in the following order: United States Senator, Governor of Florida,

3

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, and the D-89 Race.

10. Of the four races being recounted, all three races other than the D-89

Race are statewide or federal races.

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

THE COURT SHOULD EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR CERTIFICATION OF THE RECOUNT RESULTS

11. In the Motion, Bonfiglio requests this Court enter an order of injunction

compelling Detzner to extend the deadline for the Board to certify election results

from the machine recounts and manual recounts required by statute. Bucher and the

Board support this request.

12. As stated in the Motion and summarized above, it is physically

impossible for Bucher and the Board to complete the required machine and manual

recounts in the currently prescribed time period.

13. The Florida Election Code statutes contain inconsistencies concerning

deadlines for counting votes. For example, § 101.6952(5), Florida Statutes,

provides that a vote-by-mail ballot from an overseas voter in a general election which

is postmarked no later than the day of the election shall be counted if received by the

supervisor of elections no later than 10 days after the election. However, §

102.141(7)(c) requires that a canvassing board submit the second set of unofficial

returns no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after any general election in which a

recount was ordered. In other words, the canvassing board is required to submit

results, and then also count votes received after results were submitted.

14. In interpreting the Florida Election Code, the Florida Supreme Court

has "identified the right of Florida's citizens to vote and to have elections determined

by the will of Florida's voters as important policy concerns of the Florida Legislature

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fitald 1/1/6/4/98 Page 6 of 16

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

in enacting Florida's election code." Palm Beach County Canvassing Board v.

Harris, 772 So.2d 1273, 1290 (Fla. 2000).

15. Florida Statutes provide that if a canvassing board is unable to complete

the machine recount by the statutory deadline, it shall submit the second set of

unofficial returns that are identical to the first, accompanied by a report including an

explanation as to why the recount deadline was not met. § 102.141(7)(c), Florida

Statutes. The statute then orders that the canvassing board complete the recount,

along with any manual recount, and certify the election returns. Id. However, §

102.112 provides that if the returns are not received by the department by the 12th

day following a general election, the returns shall be ignored and the results on file

at that time shall be certified by the department.

16. The statutes clearly contemplate that if a recount is not completed by

the deadline, the canvassing board is required to complete the recount and certify the

results. § 102.141(7)(c), Florida Statutes.

17. Section 102.141(7)(c) specifically addresses recounts not completed by

the statutory deadline. Conversely, § 102.112 is a more general statute. The rules of

statutory interpretation require that "where two statutory provisions are in conflict,

the specific statute controls the general statute." See Palm Beach County

Canvassing Board, 772 at 1287 (further citations omitted).

Case 4:18-6v-00526-MW-CW5 Decument 28 Fitted 1/1/04/08 Page 36 of 10

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

18. Moreover, statutes must be read such that every part has meaning. As stated by the *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board* court, "[a] statutory provision will not be construed in such a way that it renders meaningless or absurd any other statutory provision." 772 So.2d at 1287. Put another way, "a basic rule of statutory construction provides that the Legislature does not intend to enact useless provisions, and courts should avoid readings that would render part of a statute meaningless." *Recovery Racing, LLC v. State Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles*, 192 So.3d 665,669 (Fla. 4th DCA 2016). If § 102.112 were to be read to mean that the directives found in § 102.141(7)(c) to finish the recount and certify the results would have no effect on the outcome of an election, it would render § 102.141(7)(c) useless. This reading would contradict the rules of statutory construction.

- 19. The Florida Supreme Court has previously resorted to the rules of statutory construction "[d]ue to several ambiguities in the Florida Election Code," and stated that "[l]egislative intent as always is the polestar that guides a court's inquiry into the provisions of the Florida Election Code." *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board*, 772 So.2d at 1281, 1282.
- 20. Finally, it is not clear that § 102.112 deadlines even apply to D-89 race. In note 13 of *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board*, the court stated: "we emphasize that because the certification of the Elections Canvassing Commission and the deadlines in section 102.111 and 102.112 apply only in the case of statewide

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fined 1/1/94/98 Page 9 of 19

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

and federal elections...." Section 102.112 itself states that it applies to the returns

for the elections of federal or state officers.

21. Given the physical impossibility of completing all four recounts within

the statutorily prescribed times, and the express direction by the statute to finish the

recount and certify the results even if the time window is missed, it is both

appropriate and necessary that this court order Detzner to extend the deadline found

in § 102.112, Florida Statutes to allow the completion and certification of the

machine and manual recounts, as expressly directed by § 102.141(7)(c).

22. Although § 102.141(7)(c) does not provide a time limit to finish the

recount if the initial deadline is missed, Bucher and the Board believe that all four

recounts will be completed no later than December 1, 2018, at 3:00.

THE COURT SHOULD NOT ORDER BUCHER AND THE BOARD TO ALTER THE ORDER IN WHICH THE RACES ARE BEING RECOUNTED

23. In addition to the injunction extending the deadline, Bonfiglio requests

the Court enter an injunction ordering and compelling Bucher and the Board to

"immediately cease the machine recount of any statewide race" until the D-89 Race

has been recounted, or to re-designate as many machines as necessary to recount the

D-89 Race and separate out the overvoted and undervoted ballots for use in a manual

recount.

24. Bucher and the Board oppose the entry of this injunction.

Case 4:18-6v-00526-MW-CW5 Decument 28 Fitted 1/1/04/08 Page 29 of 10

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

25. First, the recounts are currently underway, and ordering one or more of

the machines be taken out of operation and reprogrammed mid-count creates an

unnecessary inefficiency that would slow down the entire recount process and is,

thus, not in the public interest.

26. In addition, if the recount deadlines are not extended, it risks putting

the voters of Palm Beach County at a disadvantage relative to every other county in

the state of Florida, because the other counties have been able to execute the

statutorily mandated recount. If Palm Beach County votes are not allowed to

undergo the same process, the three state-wide recounts would offer every voter

outside of Palm Beach County greater protection than any voter inside Palm Beach

County. Recounts ensure the will of the voters is reflected in the election results.

See Palm Beach County Canvassing Board v. Harris, 772 So.2d 1273. Depriving

the citizens in Palm Beach County to right to have their votes counted in the same

way as other Florida citizens contravenes the important policy in having elections

determined by the will of Florida voters. Palm Beach County Canvassing Board,

772 So.2d at 1290.

INJUNCTION AND EVIDENTIARY HEARING

27. Preliminary injunctions must be founded upon a finding of (1) the

likelihood of irreparable harm, (2) the unavailability of an adequate remedy at law

(3) substantial likelihood of success on the merits, and (4) considerations of public

Case 4:18-6v-00526-MW-CWE Document 28 FH9dd 1/1/04/18 Ppage 9 of 16

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

interest. City of Jacksonville v. Naegele Outdoor Advertising Co., 634 So. 2d 750

(Fla. 1st DCA 1994) Here, the effect of depriving Palm Beach County citizens of a

complete and accurate election count is in irreparable harm for which there is no

remedy at law. Because the rules of statutory construction and the policies

underlying the Florida Election Code, it is likely the Court will find that it is proper

to extend the deadline to allow for the statutorily required machine and manual

recounts. The public's interest in having accurate vote counts in multiple statewide

elections is a public purpose of the highest order and necessitates the issuance of an

injunction ordering Detzner to extend the statutory deadlines.

The sole fact of which Bucher and the Board are aware that may require 28.

an evidentiary hearing is the date by which the recount can be completed and the

results certified. Although this fact is not required for finding the need for a

preliminary injunction, it may be necessary for fashioning the remedy. If the court

determines an evidentiary hearing is necessary, Bucher and the Board request

permission of the court to appear telephonically for such hearing, with such

formalities as the Court may require, pursuant to Local rule 77.3.

/s/ Andrew J. Baumann

Andrew J. Baumann

Florida Bar No. 0070610

Primary Email: abaumann@llw-law.com

Secondary Email: kdesroches@llw-law.com Secondary Email: mlozada@llw-law.com

Rachael B. Santana

Case 4118 CV 005286 NWW CNJE DOGUMENT 28 Filmed 11/1/26/1/18 PRAGE 3100 fr/fo

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

Florida Bar No. 107677

Primary Email: rsantana@llw-law.com

Secondary Email: bpennington@llw-law.com

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. 515 North Flagler Drive, Suite 1500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Telephone: (561) 640-0820 Facsimile: (561) 640-8202

NATALIE A. KATO

Florida Bar No. 87256

Primary email: <u>nkato@llw-law.com</u>

Secondary email: jbullock@llw-law.com

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. 315 South Calhoun Street, Suite 830

Tallahassee, FL 32202 Telephone: (850) 222-5702 Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via the Florida Court's E-filing Portal on this <u>14th</u> day of November, 2018 to:

Jason B. Blank, Esq. HABER BLANK, LLP 888 South Andrews Avenue Suite 101 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 Telephone: (954) 767-0300 Facsimile: (954) 949-0510 eservice@haberblank.com

Counsel for Plaintiff

Neil W. Blackmon, Esq. Telephone: (352) 672-1150 nwblackmon@gmail.com Co-Counsel for Plaintiff

Bradley R. McVay, Esq. Ashley E. Davis, Esq. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE R.A. Gray Building, Suite 100 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Erik M. Figlio, Esq. Ausley McMullen, Esq. Anthony L. Bajoczky, Jr., Esq. Alexandra Akre, Esq. AUSLEY MCMULLEN P.O. Box 391

Casse 4118 cv 0005236 NMW CNUTE DOCUMENT 28 Filmed 11/1/26/1/18 F2009e 3/21 Of 7/61

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

Telephone: (850) 245-6536 Facsimile: (850) 245-6127

Brad.mcvay@dos.myflorida.com Ashley.davis@dos.myflorida.com Tallahassee, FL 32301 Telephone: (850) 224-9115 Facsimile: (850) 222-7560

rfiglio@ausley.com tbajoczky@ausley.com aakre@ausley.com

Counsel for Defendant, Secretary of

State

/s/ Andrew J. Baumann

Andrew J. Baumann Florida Bar No. 0070610

B

FORM 1.997. CIVIL COVER SHEET

The civil cover sheet and the information contained in it neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other documents as required by law. This form must be filed by the plaintiff or petitioner for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data pursuant to section 25.075, Florida Statutes. (See instructions for completion.)

I. CASE STYLE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \underline{SECOND} JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR \underline{LEON} COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.:	2018 CA 002445
Judge:	

Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate

Plaintiff

VS

Ken Detzner, Susan Bucher, Palm Beach County Canvassing Board

Defendant

11	т	VD	=	OF	CL	\SE
11.			_	U I	\mathbf{v}_{r}	ヽ

Conti	dominium racts and indebtedness ent domain regligence ligence – other Business governance Business torts Environmental/Toxic tort Third party indemnification Construction defect Mass tort Negligent security Nursing home negligence Premises liability – commercial Premises liability – residential flucts liability Property/Mortgage foreclosure Commercial foreclosure \$0 - \$50,000 Commercial foreclosure \$50,001 - \$249,999 Commercial foreclosure \$250,000 or more Homestead residential foreclosure \$50,001 - \$249,999 Homestead residential foreclosure \$250,000 or		\$250,00 Other re Other re Other re Other Other Other Other	mestead residential foreclosure or more eal property actions \$0 - \$50,000 eal property actions \$50,001 - \$249,999 eal property actions \$250,000 or more clonal malpractice Malpractice — business Malpractice — medical Malpractice — other professional Antitrust/Trade Regulation Business Transaction Circuit Civil - Not Applicable Constitutional challenge-statute or ordinance Constitutional challenge-proposed amendment Corporate Trusts Discrimination-employment or other Insurance claims Intellectual property Libel/Slander Shareholder derivative action Securities litigation Trade secrets
				Shareholder derivative action
				Trade secrets
	Non-homestead residential foreclosure \$0 - \$50,000	į		Trust litigation
	Non-homestead residential foreclosure \$50,001 - \$249,999			

COMPLEX BUSINESS COURT

	s action is appropriate for assignment to Complex Business Court as delineated and mandated by the ninistrative Order. Yes $\underline{\Box}$ No $\underline{\boxtimes}$				
III.	REMEDIES SOUGHT (check all that apply): ☐ Monetary; ☐ Non-monetary declaratory or injunctive relief; ☐ Punitive				
IV.	NUMBER OF CAUSES OF ACTION: () (Specify)				
	<u>2</u>				
V.	IS THIS CASE A CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT? ☐ Yes ☐ No				
VI.	HAS NOTICE OF ANY KNOWN RELATED CASE BEEN FILED? No □ Yes – If "yes" list all related cases by name, case number and court:				
VII.	IS JURY TRIAL DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT? ☐ Yes ☑ No				
	that the information I have provided in this cover sheet is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and read and will comply with the requirements of Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.425.				
	Catherine Claire Darlson FL Bar No.: 112440 ttorney or party (Bar number, if attorney)				
<u>Cat</u>	herine Claire Darlson 11/15/2018 (Type or print name) Date				

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

CASE NO.

2018 CA 002445

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT FOR EMERGENCY INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY RELIEF

Plaintiff, Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate ("Plaintiff"), through undersigned counsel, brings this suit against Ken Detzner ("Detzner"), in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State; the Palm Beach County Canvassing Board ("Board"); and Susan M. Bucher ("Bucher"), in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections (collectively, "Defendants"), and alleges:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is a lawsuit for declaratory and injunctive relief under Fla. Stat. §§ 86.011 and 26.012(2)(c), over which this Court has jurisdiction. This lawsuit seeks declaratory and injunctive relief for violations of the United States Constitution and Florida statutory law.
- 2. Venue is proper in Leon County, Florida, under Fla. Stat. § 47.011 because the Secretary of State is a party to this action and the Florida Department of State maintains its

principal place of business in Leon County, and because all or part of the claims for relief at issue in this litigation arose in Leon County.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate, is a duly organized political campaign in support of Bill Nelson's election to the United States Senate, representing the State of Florida. Plaintiff's interests in enforcing Florida's election laws, and ensuring a fair election, are adversely affected by the conduct complained of below.
- 4. Defendant Ken Detzner is sued in his official capacity as Secretary of State of the State of Florida. Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 97.012, the Secretary of State is the chief elections officer of the State and is therefore responsible for the administration of state laws affecting voting, including with respect to the general election held on November 6, 2018. As Secretary of State, Defendant Detzner's duties consist, among other things, of "[o]btain[ing] and maintain[ing] uniformity in the interpretation and implementation of the election laws." *Id.* at § 97.012(1). The Secretary of State is also tasked with ensuring that county supervisors of elections perform their statutory duties, *see id.* at 97.012(14), is responsible for providing technical assistance to county supervisors of elections on voting systems, *see id.* at 97.012(5), and is responsible for "[p]roviding written direction and opinions to the supervisors of elections on the performance of their official duties with respect to the Florida Election Code or rules adopted by the Department of State." *Id.* at 97.012(16).
- 5. Defendant Palm Beach County Canvassing Board was convened pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141. Under Florida law, it oversees the canvassing of ballots from the November 6, 2018 general election conducted in Palm Beach County, Florida, and the conduct of any recounts ordered by the Secretary of State.

6. Defendant Susan M. Bucher is the elected Supervisor of Elections in Palm Beach County, Florida, pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 98.015. She has the duty to conduct the national, state and local elections for Palm Beach County, including the general election held on November 6, 2018. Under Florida law, Defendant Bucher is responsible for administering voting within Palm Beach County. *See, e.g.*, Fla. Stat. §§ 100.031, 100.032.

STATEMENT OF FACTS AND LAW

7. The candidates for U.S. Senator from Florida are currently separated by a mere .15% of more than 8 million votes cast in the November 6, 2018 election. As a result, the Secretary of State has declared a machine recount of the U.S. Senate race pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7). The machine recount is currently underway (or has been completed) in all 67 Florida counties, save one: Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach County Abandons its Machine Recount

- 8. Palm Beach County has experienced repeated problems with its machine recount. Machines used to recount votes have persistently overheated, malfunctioned and required replacement parts. *See, e.g.*, https://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/20181114/bucher-on-prayer-mode-as-thursday-deadline-nears. Defendant Bucher had repeatedly predicted it would be impossible to finish the machine recount by the Thursday, November 15 3 p.m. deadline established by Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c). *See* https://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article221648390.html.
- 9. The prospect of a missed deadline is now a certainty. At approximately 7:30 p.m. on November 14, 2018, Defendant Bucher announced that she was closing down the canvassing room, thereby ceasing the machine recount process entirely. *See* Affidavit of Imran Siddiqui (attached hereto as Exhibit A) at \P 9. At that time, the recount stopped completely, and all staff

and observers were dismissed from the canvassing room. *Id.* Also on November 14, 2018, in separate litigation pending in the United states District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Defendants Bucher and the Board stated that "it is physically impossible" for them to recount and certify the U.S. Senate race and other races subject to recount within the time prescribed by the Florida statutes. *See* Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections' Response to Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction in *Jim Bonfiglio Campaign v. Detzner*, No. 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS (N.D. Fla.), at "Procedural Background and Uncontested Facts," ¶ 8 (attached hereto as Ex. B) (hereinafter "Supervisor's Response").

The Manual Recount Process

- by one-quarter of a percent or less of the votes cast for the office, "a manual recount of the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic jurisdiction of such office" must be ordered by the Secretary of State—but only if certain conditions are met. Fla. Stat. § 102.166(1). Specifically, a manual recount is ordered *unless* the "number of overvotes and undervotes is fewer than the number of votes needed to change the outcome of the election." *Id.* In short, the very premise of a manual recount is that the results of the election may ride on counting additional ballots.
- Given the razor-thin margin separating the two candidates for United States Senate ($see \ \ 7$, supra), that race is almost certain to go to a statewide manual recount once Florida's counties complete their machine recounts. That is true even if Palm Beach County does not complete a machine recount, and instead reverts to the initial unofficial results that it reported before the machine recount commenced, pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c).
 - 12. A manual recount is a review by hand of the "overvotes and undervotes from the

machine recount." Fla. Admin. Code r. 1S-2.031(5)(a). An "undervote" is a ballot on which "the elector does not properly designate any choice for an office or ballot question, and the tabulator records no vote for the office or question or that the elector designated less than the number of choices allowed for the office and the tabulator records those choices. *This definition may be altered based upon the individual characteristics of each voting system and how the system accounts for blank ballots.*" *Id.* § 1S-2.031(1)(j) (emphasis added). Functionally, at this point *all* of Palm Beach County's ballots are "undervotes" under the regulation, because its tabulators have recorded no votes for the office. And the regulation gives explicit license to vary the definition of "undervote" based on "the individual characteristics of each voting system." In this circumstance, when the machines are simply unable to function, all of Palm Beach County's ballots are "undervotes." Under the current deadlines, all of those undervotes must be counted by noon on Sunday, November 15th, 2018. See *id.* 1S-2.031(2)(c); Fla. Stat. § 102.112.

Defendants Cannot Simply Refuse to Count Votes Cast by Citizens of Palm Beach County

- 13. With a statewide manual recount looming, Defendants have a non-discretionary duty, under both the Florida statutes and the United States Constitution, to count the votes validly cast in the United States Senate race by the citizens of Palm Beach County.
- 14. Under the Florida statutes, even if a county canvassing board cannot meet the November 15 3 p.m. machine recount deadline, "the canvassing board shall complete the recount prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount prescribed in [Fla. Stat. § 102.166], and certify election returns in accordance with the requirements of this chapter." Fla. Stat. § 102.141(7)(c); see also Fla. Stat. § 102.66(1) (where statutory requirements are met, "a manual recount of the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic jurisdiction of such office ... shall be ordered"). Moreover, county canvassing boards must certify that the election returns

filed with the Department of State include "all valid votes cast in the election." Fla. Stat. § 102.112(1).

Palm Beach County as a result of equipment difficulties, thereby devaluing their votes vis-à-vis voters in Florida's other counties. That is not just a statutory mandate, but a constitutional imperative. "The right to vote is protected in more than the initial allocation of the franchise. Equal protection applies as well to the manner of its exercise. Having once granted the right to vote on equal terms, the State may not, by later arbitrary and disparate treatment, value one person's vote over that of another." Bush v. Gore, 531 U.S. 98, 104-05 (2000) (emphasis added). "It has been repeatedly recognized that all qualified voters have a constitutionally protected right to vote and to have their votes counted." Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533, 554 (1964) (emphasis added, citations omitted). The rights to vote and to have one's vote counted are fundamental. Any action by Defendants to simply stop counting votes, or any reading of Florida's statutes that would permit prioritization of arbitrary administrative deadlines above these fundamental rights, is unconstitutional.

Defendants Should Be Immediately Ordered to Conduct a Full Hand Recount with Resources Sufficient to Complete the Recount by Sunday at Noon

16. The voting machines used in Palm Beach County are capable of processing approximately 1,000 ballots per hour, but because of their age they cannot operate 24 hours a day. Supervisor's Response at ¶ 6. In addition, Palm Beach County voting machines are a different, older model than the machines used in the rest of Florida. *Id.* at ¶ 7. Moreover, although there are three statewide races and one local race that must be recounted in Palm Beach County, *id.* at ¶¶ 5-6, the machines are only capable of recounting one race at a time. *Id.* at ¶ 7. At most, only eight machines can be operated to recount votes. *Id.* And as discussed *supra* at ¶¶

8-9, the machines have broken down repeatedly and are unreliable. A machine recount is no longer a viable or reliable alternative for protecting Palm Beach County's voters from suffering irreparable injury or for safeguarding the public interest.

17. In the November 6, 2018 election, approximately 600,000 electors cast ballots in Palm Beach County. Supervisor's Response at ¶ 5. Assuming a manual recount is declared in Florida's United States Senate race, Defendants Bucher and the Board should be ordered to immediately begin a full hand recount of all the ballots cast in that race in Palm Beach County and to apply whatever resources are necessary to complete the recount. The relevant statutory deadlines should be extended to accommodate the hand recount. A hand recount will permit all Palm Beach County electors to have their ballots lawfully counted and is the only way to protect both them and the broader public interest from suffering irreparable injury. This procedure will also satisfy the requirement of Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1), which require a manual recount and a certification including *all* valid votes cast in the election. It will also ensure that the constitutional rights of Palm Beach County's voters are protected and vindicated.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT I

(Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1))

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 17 of this Complaint.
- 19. When the statutory requirements for a manual recount are met, state and county election authorities, including Defendants here, have a mandatory and non-discretionary duty to conduct one. *See* Fla. Stat. §§ 102.141(7)(c), 102.166, and 102.112(1).

20. Given the inability of Defendants to conduct a meaningful, timely or reliable machine recount, the only practicable way for Defendants to comply with this statutory mandate and protect the voters of Palm Beach County from direct and irreparable injury is to immediately conduct a full hand recount. The relevant statutory deadlines should be extended to accommodate the hand recount.

COUNT II

(Equal Protection, U.S. Const. Amend. XIV)

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 20 of this Complaint.
- 22. The Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits a state from "deny[ing] to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1. This constitutional provision requires "that all persons similarly situated should be treated alike." *City of Cleburne v. Cleburn Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432, 439 (1985); *see also Bush*, 531 U.S. at 104-05.
- 23. Here, the refusal of election officials in one county among 66 others to count votes, or to do so only in a manner proven to be wholly unreliable, will subject similarly situated voters to differing standards based on their county of residence.
- 24. Voters who cast valid votes and reside in a county that is logistically capable of completing the recount process—including a manual recount—will have their votes for U.S. Senator counted, even if a vote was originally rejected as an overvote or and undervote, or for some other reason. By contrast, similarly situated voters who reside in Palm Beach County will have their vote left uncounted.
 - 25. Defendants' decision to stop counting votes, or to use only demonstrably

ineffective and unreliable means to do so, does not further any legitimate state interest, much less a compelling state interest narrowly tailored, that is sufficiently weighty to justify the disparate treatment of voters. Any interpretation of Florida's statutes that would require such a result is likewise wanting for failure to satisfy this exacting standard.

PRAYER FOR EMERGENCY DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- 26. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 to 24 of this Complaint. Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court:
 - (a) Immediately set a hearing to address the issues raised in this Complaint;
- (b) Declare unlawful Defendants' decision to stop counting votes in Palm Beach County, or to use only demonstrably ineffective and unreliable means to do so;
- (c) Enter an injunction ordering and compelling Defendants to immediately conduct a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate as soon as a manual recount in that contests is declared by the Secretary of State and to apply resources sufficient to ensure that it is completed;
- (d) Declare that Palm Beach County must be afforded an opportunity to complete a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate, notwithstanding any deadlines imposed by Florida law;
- (e) Preliminarily and permanently enjoin enforcement of any deadlines in Florida law that would prevent Palm Beach County from completing a full hand recount of all votes cast in Palm Beach County in the race for United States Senate; and
 - (f) Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 15, 2018 By: /s/ Catherine Darlson

Ronald G. Meyer Florida Bar No. 0148248

Email: rmeyer@meyerbrookslaw.com

Jennifer S. Blohm

Florida Bar No. 0106290

Email: jblohm@meyerbrookslaw.com MEYER, BROOKS, DEMMA AND

BLOHM, P.A.

131 North Gadsden Street Post Office Box 1547 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1547

Tallanassee, FL 32302-134. Telephone: (850) 878-5212 Facsimile: (850) 656-6750

John J. Uustal Florida Bar No. 73547 Catherine C. Darlson Florida Bar No. 112440 KELLEY/UUSTAL 500 N Federal Highway Suite 200 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Telephone: (954) 522-6601

Marc E. Elias*
Alexander G. Tischenko*
PERKINS COIE LLP
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3960
Telephone: (202) 654-6200
Facsimile: (202) 654-6211

David L. Anstaett*
PERKINS COIE LLP
One East Main Street
Suite 201
Madison, WI 53703-5118
Telephone: 608.663.7460
Facsimile: 608.663.7499

Kevin J. Hamilton*
PERKINS COIE LLP
1201 Third Avenue
Suite 4900
Seattle, Washington 98101-3099

Telephone: (206) 359-8741

Attorneys for Plaintiff Nelson for Senate *Seeking Pro Hac Vice Admission

EXHIBIT A

AFFIDAVIT OF IMRAN SIDDIQUI

- 1. My name is Imran Siddiqui, being sworn I certify that I am over the age of 18 and of sound mind. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and can competently testify to their truth.
- On November 12th, 13th and 14th 2018, I physically attended and observed the
 Palm Beach County machine recount in connection with the 2018 general election.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Palm Beach County is using eight tabulating machines to conduct the machine recount of the race for United States Senate. The eight machines are very old and no other county in Florida still uses the same type of tabulating machine being used by Palm Beach County.
- 4. During the machine recount, I have observed ongoing technical difficulties with the eight machines. During the period I was present at the machine recount, at least one technical expert was brought in to attempt to remedy functionality issues with one or more of the machines.
- 5. Upon information and belief, on November 13th, 2018 the eight tabulating machines appeared to be stressed and breaking down, causing concern as to whether the machines would prevent Palm Beach County from being able to accurately and timely complete the recount. At approximately 9:40 p.m. on November 13, 2018, I personally observed Susan Bucher, Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, make an announcement that she was unable to verify that the machines were tabulating ballots properly and needed to stop the machine recount to re-tabulate approximately 170,00 early vote ballots. The process of re-tabulating the early vote ballots began on the evening of November 13, 2018.

- 6. Upon information and belief, Palm Beach County finished the re-tabulation of the early vote ballots around 12:00 p.m. on November 14, 2018. At this point, the recount stopped completely and all eight machines sat idle. Observers, including myself, and members of the media were told that Palm Beach County officials were working to reconcile the results of the retabulation of the early vote ballots.
- 7. Upon information and belief, around 2:00 or 3:00 p.m. on November 14, 2018, Palm Beach County began using one machine and one staff member to continue tabulating ballots. The seven remaining machines continued to sit idle.
- 8. Around 7:30 p.m. on November 14, 2018, I personally observed Susan Bucher announce that she was closing down the canvassing room, thereby ceasing the machine recounting process entirely. The recount stopped completely, and all staff and observers were dismissed from the canvassing room. Upon information and belief, the reason for the complete stop of operations appeared to be due to the inability of Susan Bucher and the Palm Beach County Canvassing Board to establish confidence in the accuracy of the results being produced by Palm Beach County's tabulating machines.
 - 9. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: November 15, 2018 By: Imran Siddiqui	
STATE OF FLORIDA	
COUNTY OF Palm Black	
Sworn to or affirmed and signed before me on November 15.2018 by Imran	Anf Siddige
NOTARY PUBLIC or DEPUTY CLERK	modelmon monotomical cinquilms:
Channiel J. Ellis	Microbiotocontrolonidoseacoportucore,
[Print, type, or stamp commissioned name of notary	or clerk.]
CHANNIEL J. ELLIS Notary Public, State of Florida Commission# GG 213562 My comm. expires May 2, 2022	

EXHIBIT B

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TALLAHASSEE DIVISION

JIM BONFIGLIO CAMPAIGN, and JIM BONFIGLIO, individually as an elector of House District 89,

Plaintiff, Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

L	etenc	lants.		
				,

PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTION'S RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Defendants, the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD (Board), and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections (Bucher), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby file this Response to Plaintiff Jim Bonfiglio Campaign's and Plaintiff Jim Bonfiglio's (collectively, "Bonfiglio") Motion for Preliminary Injunction, and in support state:

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND AND UNCONTESTED FACTS

1. On November 12, 2018, Bonfiglio filed an Emergency Motion for

Injunctive Relief to Extend Certification Deadlines as Mandated by Florida Statutes

§ 102.41 and § 102.112 and to Proceed to the Machine and Manual Recounts of the

Florida House of Representative District 89 Election (Motion) in the Circuit Court

of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County, Florida.

2. On November 13, 2018, Bonfiglio filed an Amended Verified

Complaint for Emergency Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (Complaint), also in the

Second Judicial Circuit.

3. On November 13, 2018, Defendant Florida Secretary of State Ken

Detzner (Detzner) filed a notice of removal of this action from the Second Judicial

Circuit to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida.

4. Bucher and the Board agree on the key applicable facts of this case, as

summarized below.

5. In the General Election held in November, 2018, approximately

600,000 electors cast ballots in Palm Beach County. The ballots included races for

the office of United States Senator, Governor of Florida, Florida Commissioner of

Agriculture, and Florida State House Representative for District 89, among others.

6. The unofficial results first certified indicated a recount is required for

all four of the above-listed races. The number of recounts resulting from this election

Case 4:18-cv-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fitted 1/1/6/4/88 Page 53 of 16

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

is unprecedented. Regarding the race for Florida State House Representative for

District 89 (D-89 Race) specifically, on November 10, 2018, Detzner ordered a

machine recount of the votes. Each machine is capable of processing approximately

1,000 ballots per hour. However, due to the age of these machines, they cannot

operate 24 hours a day.

7. The voting machines used in Palm Beach County are a different, older

model than the machines used in the rest of the state. The Palm Beach County voting

machines are only capable of recounting a single race at a time. At most, only 8

machines can be operated to recount votes.

8. Due to the limitations of the Palm Beach County voting machines, it is

physically impossible for Bucher and the Board to recount and certify the races

within the time prescribed by § 102.112, Florida Statutes.

9. Florida Statute 101.151 governs the order candidates appear on a ballot.

Using this statute as a guide, and relying on the order in which Order of Machine

Recounts was received from the Secretary of State, the Board ordered the races to

be recounted in the following order: United States Senator, Governor of Florida,

3

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, and the D-89 Race.

10. Of the four races being recounted, all three races other than the D-89

Race are statewide or federal races.

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

THE COURT SHOULD EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR CERTIFICATION OF THE RECOUNT RESULTS

11. In the Motion, Bonfiglio requests this Court enter an order of injunction

compelling Detzner to extend the deadline for the Board to certify election results

from the machine recounts and manual recounts required by statute. Bucher and the

Board support this request.

12. As stated in the Motion and summarized above, it is physically

impossible for Bucher and the Board to complete the required machine and manual

recounts in the currently prescribed time period.

13. The Florida Election Code statutes contain inconsistencies concerning

deadlines for counting votes. For example, § 101.6952(5), Florida Statutes,

provides that a vote-by-mail ballot from an overseas voter in a general election which

is postmarked no later than the day of the election shall be counted if received by the

supervisor of elections no later than 10 days after the election. However, §

102.141(7)(c) requires that a canvassing board submit the second set of unofficial

returns no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after any general election in which a

recount was ordered. In other words, the canvassing board is required to submit

results, and then also count votes received after results were submitted.

14. In interpreting the Florida Election Code, the Florida Supreme Court

has "identified the right of Florida's citizens to vote and to have elections determined

by the will of Florida's voters as important policy concerns of the Florida Legislature

4

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fitald 1/1/6/4/98 Page 56 of 16

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

in enacting Florida's election code." Palm Beach County Canvassing Board v.

Harris, 772 So.2d 1273, 1290 (Fla. 2000).

15. Florida Statutes provide that if a canvassing board is unable to complete

the machine recount by the statutory deadline, it shall submit the second set of

unofficial returns that are identical to the first, accompanied by a report including an

explanation as to why the recount deadline was not met. § 102.141(7)(c), Florida

Statutes. The statute then orders that the canvassing board complete the recount,

along with any manual recount, and certify the election returns. Id. However, §

102.112 provides that if the returns are not received by the department by the 12th

day following a general election, the returns shall be ignored and the results on file

at that time shall be certified by the department.

16. The statutes clearly contemplate that if a recount is not completed by

the deadline, the canvassing board is required to complete the recount and certify the

results. § 102.141(7)(c), Florida Statutes.

17. Section 102.141(7)(c) specifically addresses recounts not completed by

the statutory deadline. Conversely, § 102.112 is a more general statute. The rules of

statutory interpretation require that "where two statutory provisions are in conflict,

the specific statute controls the general statute." See Palm Beach County

Canvassing Board, 772 at 1287 (further citations omitted).

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fitald 1/1/6/4/98 Page 56 of 19

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

18. Moreover, statutes must be read such that every part has meaning. As stated by the *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board* court, "[a] statutory provision will not be construed in such a way that it renders meaningless or absurd any other statutory provision." 772 So.2d at 1287. Put another way, "a basic rule of statutory construction provides that the Legislature does not intend to enact useless provisions, and courts should avoid readings that would render part of a statute meaningless." *Recovery Racing, LLC v. State Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles*, 192 So.3d 665,669 (Fla. 4th DCA 2016). If § 102.112 were to be read to mean that the directives found in § 102.141(7)(c) to finish the recount and certify the results would have no effect on the outcome of an election, it would render § 102.141(7)(c) useless. This reading would contradict the rules of statutory construction.

- 19. The Florida Supreme Court has previously resorted to the rules of statutory construction "[d]ue to several ambiguities in the Florida Election Code," and stated that "[l]egislative intent as always is the polestar that guides a court's inquiry into the provisions of the Florida Election Code." *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board*, 772 So.2d at 1281, 1282.
- 20. Finally, it is not clear that § 102.112 deadlines even apply to D-89 race. In note 13 of *Palm Beach County Canvassing Board*, the court stated: "we emphasize that because the certification of the Elections Canvassing Commission and the deadlines in section 102.111 and 102.112 apply only in the case of statewide

Case 4:18-ev-00526-MW-CM5 Decument 28 Fined 1/1/94/98 Page 9 of 19

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

and federal elections...." Section 102.112 itself states that it applies to the returns

for the elections of federal or state officers.

21. Given the physical impossibility of completing all four recounts within

the statutorily prescribed times, and the express direction by the statute to finish the

recount and certify the results even if the time window is missed, it is both

appropriate and necessary that this court order Detzner to extend the deadline found

in § 102.112, Florida Statutes to allow the completion and certification of the

machine and manual recounts, as expressly directed by § 102.141(7)(c).

22. Although § 102.141(7)(c) does not provide a time limit to finish the

recount if the initial deadline is missed, Bucher and the Board believe that all four

recounts will be completed no later than December 1, 2018, at 3:00.

THE COURT SHOULD NOT ORDER BUCHER AND THE BOARD TO ALTER THE ORDER IN WHICH THE RACES ARE BEING RECOUNTED

23. In addition to the injunction extending the deadline, Bonfiglio requests

the Court enter an injunction ordering and compelling Bucher and the Board to

"immediately cease the machine recount of any statewide race" until the D-89 Race

has been recounted, or to re-designate as many machines as necessary to recount the

D-89 Race and separate out the overvoted and undervoted ballots for use in a manual

recount.

24. Bucher and the Board oppose the entry of this injunction.

Case 4:18-6v-00526-MW-CW5 Decument 28 Fitted 1/1/04/08 Page 59 of 10

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

25. First, the recounts are currently underway, and ordering one or more of

the machines be taken out of operation and reprogrammed mid-count creates an

unnecessary inefficiency that would slow down the entire recount process and is,

thus, not in the public interest.

26. In addition, if the recount deadlines are not extended, it risks putting

the voters of Palm Beach County at a disadvantage relative to every other county in

the state of Florida, because the other counties have been able to execute the

statutorily mandated recount. If Palm Beach County votes are not allowed to

undergo the same process, the three state-wide recounts would offer every voter

outside of Palm Beach County greater protection than any voter inside Palm Beach

County. Recounts ensure the will of the voters is reflected in the election results.

See Palm Beach County Canvassing Board v. Harris, 772 So.2d 1273. Depriving

the citizens in Palm Beach County to right to have their votes counted in the same

way as other Florida citizens contravenes the important policy in having elections

determined by the will of Florida voters. Palm Beach County Canvassing Board,

772 So.2d at 1290.

INJUNCTION AND EVIDENTIARY HEARING

27. Preliminary injunctions must be founded upon a finding of (1) the

likelihood of irreparable harm, (2) the unavailability of an adequate remedy at law

(3) substantial likelihood of success on the merits, and (4) considerations of public

Case 4:18-6v-00526-MW-CWE Document 28 FH9dd 1/1/04/98 Ppage 9 of 19

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

interest. City of Jacksonville v. Naegele Outdoor Advertising Co., 634 So. 2d 750

(Fla. 1st DCA 1994) Here, the effect of depriving Palm Beach County citizens of a

complete and accurate election count is in irreparable harm for which there is no

remedy at law. Because the rules of statutory construction and the policies

underlying the Florida Election Code, it is likely the Court will find that it is proper

to extend the deadline to allow for the statutorily required machine and manual

recounts. The public's interest in having accurate vote counts in multiple statewide

elections is a public purpose of the highest order and necessitates the issuance of an

injunction ordering Detzner to extend the statutory deadlines.

The sole fact of which Bucher and the Board are aware that may require 28.

an evidentiary hearing is the date by which the recount can be completed and the

results certified. Although this fact is not required for finding the need for a

preliminary injunction, it may be necessary for fashioning the remedy. If the court

determines an evidentiary hearing is necessary, Bucher and the Board request

permission of the court to appear telephonically for such hearing, with such

formalities as the Court may require, pursuant to Local rule 77.3.

/s/ Andrew J. Baumann

Andrew J. Baumann

Florida Bar No. 0070610

Primary Email: abaumann@llw-law.com

Secondary Email: kdesroches@llw-law.com Secondary Email: mlozada@llw-law.com

Rachael B. Santana

Casse 4:118 cov 0005236 NMW CNASE DOGUMENT 28 Films 1:11/164/18 Passe 610 of 7/61

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

Florida Bar No. 107677

Primary Email: rsantana@llw-law.com

Secondary Email: bpennington@llw-law.com

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. 515 North Flagler Drive, Suite 1500 West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Telephone: (561) 640-0820 Facsimile: (561) 640-8202

NATALIE A. KATO

Florida Bar No. 87256

Primary email: nkato@llw-law.com

Secondary email: jbullock@llw-law.com

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. 315 South Calhoun Street, Suite 830

Tallahassee, FL 32202 Telephone: (850) 222-5702 Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via the Florida Court's E-filing Portal on this 14th day of November, 2018 to:

Jason B. Blank, Esq. HABER BLANK, LLP 888 South Andrews Avenue Suite 101 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 Telephone: (954) 767-0300 Facsimile: (954) 949-0510 eservice@haberblank.com

Counsel for Plaintiff

Neil W. Blackmon, Esq. Telephone: (352) 672-1150 nwblackmon@gmail.com Co-Counsel for Plaintiff

Bradley R. McVay, Esq. Ashley E. Davis, Esq. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Anthony L. Bajoczky, Jr., Esq. R.A. Gray Building, Suite 100 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Erik M. Figlio, Esq. Ausley McMullen, Esq. Alexandra Akre, Esq. **AUSLEY MCMULLEN** P.O. Box 391

Casse 4118 cv 0005236 NMW CNUTE DOCUMENT 28 Filmed 11/1/26/1/18 F2000e 6/21 Of 7/61

Case No.: 4:18-cv-00527-MW-CAS

Telephone: (850) 245-6536 Facsimile: (850) 245-6127

Brad.mcvay@dos.myflorida.com Ashley.davis@dos.myflorida.com Tallahassee, FL 32301 Telephone: (850) 224-9115 Facsimile: (850) 222-7560

rfiglio@ausley.com tbajoczky@ausley.com aakre@ausley.com

Counsel for Defendant, Secretary of

State

/s/ Andrew J. Baumann

Andrew J. Baumann Florida Bar No. 0070610

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

CASE NO.

2018 CA 002445

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Defendants.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

To All and Singular Sheriffs of said State:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to serve this summons and copy of the Complaint in this action on Defendant:

SUSAN BUCHER, PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS 240 South Military Trail West Palm Beach, Florida 33415

Each Defendant is required to serve written defenses to the Complaint or petition on Catherine C. Darlson, Esq., **KELLEY UUSTAL**, **PLC**, 500 North Federal Highway, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 within twenty (20) days after service of this summons on that Defendant, exclusive of the day of service, and to file the original of the defenses with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter. If a defendant

fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court.

As Clerk of said Court

By: Deputy Clerk

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT: **SUSAN WILSON, ADA COORDINATOR,** 301 SOUTH MONROE STREET, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301, 850.606.4401AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

IMPORTANT

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have 20 calendar days after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint with the clerk of this court. A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be filed if you want the court to hear your side of the case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may thereafter be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the court you must also mail or take a copy of your written response to the "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" named below.

IMPORTANTE

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene 20 dias, contados a partir del recibo de esta notificacion, para contestar la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Una llamada telefonica no lo protegera. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defensa, debe presentar su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el numero del caso y los nombres de las partes

interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podria ser despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, puede usted consultar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de asistencia legal que aparecen en la guia telefonica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presenta su respuesta ante el tribunal, debera usted enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo como "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Demandante o Abogado del Demandante).

IMPORTANT

Des poursuites judiciares ont ete entreprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consecutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour deposer une reponse ecrite a la plainte ci-jointe aupres de ce tribunal. Un simple coup de telephone est insuffisant pour vous proteger. Vous etes obliges de deposer votre reponse ecrite, avec mention du numero de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommees ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne deposez pas votre reponse ecrite dans le relai requis, vous risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent etre saisis par la suite, sans aucun preavis ulterieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requerir les services immediats d'un avocat. Si vous ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez telephoner a un service de reference d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de telephones).

Si vous choisissez de deposer vous-meme une reponse ecrite, il vous faudra egalement, en meme temps que cette formalite, faire parvenir ou expedier une copie de votre reponse ecrite au "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Plaignant ou a son avocat) nomme ci-dessous.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

CASE NO.

2018 CA 002445

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

	Defendants.	

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

To All and Singular Sheriffs of said State:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to serve this summons and copy of the Complaint in this action on Defendant:

PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD 240 South Military Trail West Palm Beach, Florida 33415

Each Defendant is required to serve written defenses to the Complaint or petition on Catherine C. Darlson, Esq., **KELLEY UUSTAL**, **PLC**, 500 North Federal Highway, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 within twenty (20) days after service of this summons on that Defendant, exclusive of the day of service, and to file the original of the defenses with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter. If a defendant

fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court.

As Clerk of said Court:

By: Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: **Susan Wilson, ADA Coordinator,** 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301, 850.606.4401at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

IMPORTANT

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have 20 calendar days after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint with the clerk of this court. A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be filed if you want the court to hear your side of the case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may thereafter be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the court you must also mail or take a copy of your written response to the "Plaintiff's Attorney" named below.

IMPORTANTE

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene 20 dias, contados a partir del recibo de esta notificacion, para contestar la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Una llamada telefonica no lo protegera. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defensa, debe presentar su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el numero del caso y los nombres de las partes

interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podria ser despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, puede usted consultar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de asistencia legal que aparecen en la guia telefonica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presenta su respuesta ante el tribunal, debera usted enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo como "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Demandante o Abogado del Demandante).

IMPORTANT

Des poursuites judiciares ont ete entreprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consecutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour deposer une reponse ecrite a la plainte ci-jointe aupres de ce tribunal. Un simple coup de telephone est insuffisant pour vous proteger. Vous etes obliges de deposer votre reponse ecrite, avec mention du numero de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommees ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne deposez pas votre reponse ecrite dans le relai requis, vous risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent etre saisis par la suite, sans aucun preavis ulterieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requerir les services immediats d'un avocat. Si vous ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez telephoner a un service de reference d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de telephones).

Si vous choisissez de deposer vous-meme une reponse ecrite, il vous faudra egalement, en meme temps que cette formalite, faire parvenir ou expedier une copie de votre reponse ecrite au "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Plaignant ou a son avocat) nomme ci-dessous.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE,

CASE NO. 2018 CA 002445

Plaintiff,

v.

KEN DETZNER, in his official capacity as Florida Secretary of State, and the PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD, and SUSAN M. BUCHER, in her official capacity as Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections,

Defendants.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

To All and Singular Sheriffs of said State:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to serve this summons and copy of the Complaint in this action on Defendant:

KEN DETZNER, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA R.A. Gray Building Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Each Defendant is required to serve written defenses to the Complaint or petition on Catherine C. Darlson, Esq., **KELLEY UUSTAL**, **PLC**, 500 North Federal Highway, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 within twenty (20) days after service of this summons on that Defendant, exclusive of the day of service, and to file the original of the defenses with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter. If a defendant

fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court.

As Clerk of said Court:

By: Deputy Clerk

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT: **SUSAN WILSON, ADA COORDINATOR,** 301 SOUTH MONROE STREET, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301, 850.606.4401AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

IMPORTANT

A lawsuit has been filed against you. You have 20 calendar days after this summons is served on you to file a written response to the attached complaint with the clerk of this court. A phone call will not protect you. Your written response, including the case number given above and the names of the parties, must be filed if you want the court to hear your side of the case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money, and property may thereafter be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

If you choose to file a written response yourself, at the same time you file your written response to the court you must also mail or take a copy of your written response to the "Plaintiff's Attorney" named below.

IMPORTANTE

Usted ha sido demandado legalmente. Tiene 20 dias, contados a partir del recibo de esta notificacion, para contestar la demanda adjunta, por escrito, y presentarla ante este tribunal. Una llamada telefonica no lo protegera. Si usted desea que el tribunal considere su defensa, debe presentar su respuesta por escrito, incluyendo el numero del caso y los nombres de las partes interesadas. Si usted no contesta la demanda a tiempo, pudiese perder el caso y podria ser

despojado de sus ingresos y propiedades, o privado de sus derechos, sin previo aviso del tribunal. Existen otros requisitos legales. Si lo desea, puede usted consultar a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a una de las oficinas de asistencia legal que aparecen en la guia telefonica.

Si desea responder a la demanda por su cuenta, al mismo tiempo en que presenta su respuesta ante el tribunal, debera usted enviar por correo o entregar una copia de su respuesta a la persona denominada abajo como "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Demandante o Abogado del Demandante).

IMPORTANT

Des poursuites judiciares ont ete entreprises contre vous. Vous avez 20 jours consecutifs a partir de la date de l'assignation de cette citation pour deposer une reponse ecrite a la plainte ci-jointe aupres de ce tribunal. Un simple coup de telephone est insuffisant pour vous proteger. Vous etes obliges de deposer votre reponse ecrite, avec mention du numero de dossier ci-dessus et du nom des parties nommees ici, si vous souhaitez que le tribunal entende votre cause. Si vous ne deposez pas votre reponse ecrite dans le relai requis, vous risquez de perdre la cause ainsi que votre salaire, votre argent, et vos biens peuvent etre saisis par la suite, sans aucun preavis ulterieur du tribunal. Il y a d'autres obligations juridiques et vous pouvez requerir les services immediats d'un avocat. Si vous ne connaissez pas d'avocat, vous pourriez telephoner a un service de reference d'avocats ou a un bureau d'assistance juridique (figurant a l'annuaire de telephones).

Si vous choisissez de deposer vous-meme une reponse ecrite, il vous faudra egalement, en meme temps que cette formalite, faire parvenir ou expedier une copie de votre reponse ecrite au "Plaintiff/Plaintiff's Attorney" (Plaignant ou a son avocat) nomme ci-dessous.

Case 4:18-cv-00536-MW-MJF Document 1 Filed 11/16/18 Page 72 of 76



LEON COUNTY Receipt of Transaction Receipt # 1383523

GWEN MARSHALL Clerk of Court and Comptroller LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Received From:

Gilbraltar Private Bank 500 N FEDERAL HWY STE 200 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

On Behalf Of:

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE

500 N FEDERAL HWY STE 200 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33322 On: 11/15/2018 4:07:49PM Transaction # 100636881

Cashiered by: T BODIFORD

CaseNumber 2018 CA 002445

Judge KAREN A GIEVERS

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE VS KEN DETZNER

Comments:

Fee Description		Fee	Prior Paid	Waived	Due	Paid	Balance
(COMP_CA) COMPLAINT		400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	0.00
(SUIS) SUMMONS ISSUED		10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
(SUIS) SUMMONS ISSUED		10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
(SUIS) SUMMONS ISSUED		10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
	Total:	430.00	0.00	0.00	430.00	430.00	0.00

Grand Total: 430.00 0.00 0.00 430.00 430.00 0.00

PAYMENTS

Payment Type	Reference		Amount	Refund	Overage	Change	Net Amount
CREDIT CARD EFILE	80871530	ОК	430.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	430.00
		Payments Total:	430.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	430.00

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE Plaintiff(s),

vs.

CASE NO. 2018 CA 002445

DETZNER, KEN
Defendant(s).

_____/

ORDER SETTING CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

THIS CAUSE came before the Court on November 15, 2018 for sua sponte review. The Court having reviewed the court file, having determined that this appears to be an election case entitled to high priority pursuant to Rule 2.215(g) and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that this case is set for Case Management Conference and evidentiary hearing pursuant to Rule 1.200 on November 16, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. E.T. [to address whether this Court has jurisdiction and what the disputed issues of fact and law are], before the Honorable Karen Gievers, Leon County Courthouse, 301 South Monroe Street, Courtroom 3-G, Tallahassee, FL

32301. By 12:00 noon, counsel shall submit their joint prehearing statement indicating their position as to what, if any jurisdiction, this Court has, as well as any matters of fact and law remaining in dispute regarding the issues in this case. Counsel are reminded to submit their papers through the Clerk's efiling portal and by email to Judicial Assistant Underwood, copies to all counsel.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Court Administrator's Office no later than seven days prior to the proceeding at (850)606-4300.

ORDERED in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida, on 11/15/2018 4:59 PM.

11/15/2019 4:59 PM 2018

e-Signed 11/15/2018 4:59 PM 2018 C/ 002445

Circuit Judge

Copies furnished to:

KEN DETZNER No address on file

PALM BEACH COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD No address on file

CATHERINE CLAIRE DARLSON 500 N FEDERAL HIGHWAY SUITE 200 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

BILL NELSON FOR U.S. SENATE 500 N FEDERAL HWY STE 200 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33322

SUSAN BUCHER No address on file