

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF KANSAS**

CELISHA TOWERS,

PLAINTIFF.

V.

Daniel Soptic, in his individual
Capacity, and
**Unified Government of
Wyandotte County and
Kansas City, Kansas, et al**, and
Michael Abbott, in his capacity as Wyandotte
County Election Commissioner and
in his individual capacity, and
Melissa Bynum, in her capacity as
Board of Canvasser and in her individual capacity,
Gayle Townsend, in her capacity as Board of
Canvasser, and in her individual capacity, and
Tom Burroughs in his capacity as Board of
Canvasser and in his individual capacity,
Brian McKiernan, in his capacity as Board
of Canvasser and in his individual capacity,
Mary Gonzales, in her capacity as Board of
Canvasser and in his individual capacity, and
Gayle Townsend, in her capacity as Board of
Canvasser and in his individual capacity, and
Christian Ramirez, in his capacity as Board of
Canvasser and in his individual capacity, and
Mike Kane, in his capacity as Board of
Canvasser and in his individual capacity, and
Frances Shepard, in her capacity as Assistant
County Administrator and in her
individual capacity, and
Marni Arevalo, in her capacity as Voter Register,

CASE NO. 21-4089

AMENDED COMPLAINT

and in his individual capacity, and)
Stephanie Grady, in her capacity as Advance Voting,)
 and in her individual capacity, and)
Kyla Esparza, in her capacity as Election Worker)
 Program Coordinator, and in her)
 individual Capacity, and)
Elizabeth Hernandez, in her capacity as Election)
 Technology Program Coordinator and in her individual)
 Capacity, and)
Kim Rivera, in her capacity as Election Equipment)
 Program Coordinator and in her individual Capacity,)
Don Ash, in his capacity as Sheriff and in his)
 individual capacity, and)
Scott Schwab, in his capacity as Secretary of State and)
 In his individual capacity, and)
Doug Bach, in his capacity as County Administrator)
 And in his individual capacity, and)
Angela Markley, in her capacity as Board of Canvasser)
 and in her individual capacity, and)
Jim Walters, in his capacity as Board of Canvasser and)
 in his individual capacity, and)
Jane Philbrook, in her capacity as Board of Canvasser)
 and in her individual capacity, and)
Henry Couchman, in his capacity as Legal Counsel and)
 in his individual capacity, and)
Jeffrey Conway, in his capacity as Legal Counsel and)
 In his individual capacity, and)
Suezanna Bishop, in her capacity as Legal Counsel and)
 in her individual capacity.)

DEFENDANTS.

I. **Parties to this Civil Action:**

A. **Name of Plaintiff:** Celisha Towers

Address: 11216 Delaware Pkwy #4409, Kansas City, Kansas 66109

B. **Defendant:** Daniel Soptic is employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte

County and Kansas City, Kansas.

C. **Additional Defendants:** Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City Kansas et. al.,

Defendant: Michael Abbott is the Election Commissioner employed at Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Melissa Bynum is the Commissioner At- Large for District 1 employed at Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City Kansas,

Defendant: Gayle Townsend is the Commissioner for District 1 employed at Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Tom Burroughs is the Commissioner for District At-Large 2 employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Christian Ramirez is the Commissioner for District 2 employed at Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Mike Kane is the Commissioner for District 5 employed at Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Frances Shepard is the Assistant County Commissioner employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Marni Arevalo is over Voter Registration employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Stephanie Grady is over Advance Voting employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Kyla Esparza is the Election Worker Program Coordinator employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Elizabeth Hernandez is the Election Technology Program Coordinator employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Kim Rivera is the Election Equipment Program Coordinator employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Don Ash is/was employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Scott Schwab is employed at the Secretary of State or the State of Kansas,

Defendant: Doug Bach is/was employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Angela Markley is the Commissioner for District 6 employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Jim Walters is/was the Commissioner for District 7 employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Jane Philbrook is/was the Commissioner for District 8 employed at the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Henry Couchman is Legal Counsel employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Jeffrey Conway is Legal Counsel employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas,

Defendant: Suezanna Bishop is Legal Counsel employed by the Unified

Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas.

II. Jurisdiction

A. Diversity of Citizenship and Amount:

1. Plaintiff is a Citizen of the State of Kansas.
2. The first-named defendant is either
 - a. a citizen of the State of Kansas; or
 - b. a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas and having its principal place of business in the State of Kansas in which the plaintiff is a citizen.
3. The second-named through the twenty-sixth named defendant above is either
 - a. a citizen of the State of Kansas; or
 - b. a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas and having its principal place of business in the State of Kansas in which the Plaintiff is a citizen.

Plaintiff states that the matter in controversy contract for the Sheriff four-year contract exceeds, exclusive of interest and costs, the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000).

B. Jurisdiction founded on grounds other than diversity and arises under the following section of the Constitution of the United States or statute of the United States:

1. 28 U.S.C. § 1331 : Violating the 14th Amendment and the 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution.
2. 28 U.S.C. § 1343: This case arises because of violation of the civil or equal rights, privileges, or immunities accorded to citizens of, or persons within the

jurisdiction of, the United States.

- a. Violation of The Voting Rights Act of 1965
- b. Violation of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 (1983) Title 42
- c. Violation of Civil Rights: Voting

III. Statement of Claims:

I Celisha Towers an African American Women was a Candidate for Wyandotte County Sheriff in Wyandotte County Kansas for the General Election held on November 2, 2021 in which I Celisha Towers successfully received the majority of the votes in the Sheriff race over Caucasian male candidate Daniel Soptic. Over 15,000 eligible valid ballots were casts approximately October 23, 2021 through November 2, 2021 in the General Election by the majority of African American citizens, and Hispanic citizens including Celisha Towers ballot in which Michael Abbott a Caucasian white male appointed as the Election Commissioner, and every Defendant listed and employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City Kansas who was in charge of overseeing all election activities during the General Election illegally rejected valid eligible ballots cast by Celisha Towers, African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Caucasian Voters in favor of Celisha Towers and other African American Candidates in the General Election held on November 2, 2021 purposely reporting fraudulent numbers preventing African American Candidates Celisha Towers, Melvin Williams, and Gwendolyn Bass from obtaining their elected seats in the General Election against Caucasian opponents. Michael Abbott, Board of Canvassers, County Administrator and Election workers, Secretary of State and legal Counsel refused to issue Certificate of Elections to African American Candidates who received the majority of the votes over Caucasian opponents in the General Election held on November 2, 2021. Michael

Abbott and all Defendants listed acted under the color of law when he deprived and intentionally rejected and refused to count over 15,000 valid eligible ballots majority cast by African American voters, women voters in favor of African American candidates Celisha Towers, Melvin Williams , and Gwendolyn Bass during the General Election held on November 2, 2021.

1. 14th Amendment Claim

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1868, granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States—including former enslaved people—and guaranteed all citizens “equal protection of the laws.” Michael Abbott, and all defendants listed, and employees employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas refused over 15,000 valid and eligible ballots casts by Hispanic, African American voters and Celisha Towers that are eligible citizens to vote in Wyandotte county in favor of African American candidates denying African American Candidates the right to be elected to office for the elected position in which they rightfully obtained the majority of the votes cast over Caucasian candidates during the General Election held on November 2, 2021.

2. 19th Amendment Claim

The Nineteenth (19th) Amendment to the United States Constitution granted women the right to vote, prohibiting any United States citizen to be denied the right to vote based on sex. Michael Abbott, all defendants listed and his staff employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City Kansas, and the Secretary of State denied and refused to count over 15,000 eligible valid casts by African American women, Caucasian women, and Hispanic women and Celisha Towers a Black women in favor of candidate Celisha Towers during the General Election held on November 2, 2021 preventing Celisha Towers an

African American women who received the majority of the votes and won the Sheriff Election race over Caucasian male candidate Daniel Soptic.

3. Civil Rights and Voting Rights Act Claims

The work for civil rights and voting rights involved tens of thousands of individuals who fought to correct the course of the nation by setting it on a path of equal rights and justice for all. Michael Abbott, all defendants listed, and employees employed by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City Kansas violated thousands of registered voters rights in Wyandotte County Kansas when Michael Abbott denied and rejected over 15,000 valid and eligible valid casts by the majority of African American voters in Wyandotte County in favor of African American Candidates. Michael Abbott is preventing African American candidates from obtaining elected positions in Wyandotte County by rejecting and denying African American registered voters valid eligible ballots that were casts during the General election held on November 2, 2021 in favor of African American Candidates.

IV. Relief:

Injunctive Relief: Inspection of the Voter Machines and a manual Recount of each paper ballot cast by every citizen that legally cast a ballot in the General Election during advance voting, voting by mail, regular voting on election day for the General Election dated November 2, 2021. Revoke the Certificate of Election from Daniel Soptic and any other Candidate found to not have the majority of the vote with ballots casts during election; and/ or run-off election with the supervision of Department of Justice Civil Rights Division supervising manual ballot count;

Update Voting records of voter-turnout rates and true-correct numbers of ballots casts during General Election.

V. Yes. I claim that the wrongs alleged in my complaint are continuing to occur at the present time.

VI. Yes. I claim actual damages for the acts alleged in my complaint.

VII. Yes. I claim punitive monetary damages in my complaint.

- Plaintiff claims Punitive Damages no less than the amount of \$25,000,000.00;
- Back Pay of the Sheriff Salary and any incentives that comes with the contract starting from the swearing in date December 13, 2021;
- Attorney Fees awarded to the Plaintiff; and
- Any other damages the Court deems proper and just.

VIII. Administrative Procedures

- a. The particular claims have taken the current procedure necessary to file in a Federal Court with the Federal Question as Jurisdiction.

IX. Related Litigation:

This is an Amended complaint in Case No: 21-4089.

DESIGNATION OF PLACE OF TRIAL

Plaintiff designates Topeka, Kansas as the location for the trial in this matter due to a conflict of interest with the Government being the defendant on trial in Kansas City, Kansas.

REQUEST FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff requests trial by Jury.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was sent by email and mailed via electronic mail and served upon parties on this 20th day of April 2022.

/S/ CELISHA TOWERS

Celisha Towers

Pro Se

11216 Delaware Pkwy #4409

Kansas City, KS 66109

913-717-9338

Towersforsheriff@gmail.com

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF KANSAS

FILED

APR 21 2022

Clerk, U.S. District Court
By: [Signature] Deputy Clerk

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DESIGNATION OF PLACE OF TRIAL

Plaintiff designates Topeka, Kansas as the location for the trial in this matter due to a conflict of interest with the Government being the defendant on trial in Kansas City, Kansas.

REQUEST FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff requests trial by Jury.



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was sent by email and mailed via electronic mail and served upon parties on this 20th day of April 2022.

/S/ CELISHA TOWERS

Celisha Towers

Pro Se

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Towersforsheriff@gmail.com

