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March 30, 2024

VIA E-FILING

Hon. Zahid N. Quraishi, U.S.D.J. United States District Court Clarkson S. Fisher Building 402 East State Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608

Re: Andy Kim, et al. v. Hanlon, et al.

Civil Action No.: 3:24-1098(ZNQ)(TJB)

Dear Judge Quraishi:

This firm represents the Honorable John Hogan, Clerk of Bergen County in this matter. We write to respectfully join the letter dated March 29, 2024, filed by Mr. Parikh (Docket Entry 194) on behalf of fifteen co-defendants/Clerks seeking an emergency stay pending appeal of Your Honor's Order dated March 29, 2024 (Docket Entry 195) granting Plaintiff's extraordinary Motion for a Preliminary Injunction ("March 29th Order")¹. On the evening of March 29th, the Defendant Clerks jointly filed a timely Notice of Interlocutory Appeal (Docket Entry 200).

We rely upon Mr. Parikh's arguments simply wishing to briefly highlight:

- 1. The Clerk's statutory obligation is merely ministerial and are simply to follow <u>NJSA</u> 19:49-2 and therefore indispensable parties who are the real parties in interest were not named pursuant to <u>Fed. R. Civ. P. 19</u>;
- 2. Providing the Clerks five business days' notice to change a ballot design in effect for decades is, respectfully, inequitable, unreasonable and only causes confusion; and
- 3. The letter filed by the Morris County Republican Committee (Docket Entry No. 196) positing that the republican primary ballot is unaffected by the March 29th Order exemplifies the confusion throughout the State- Are there now two separate and distinct ballot designs for the June 4th primary that must be put into effect in very short order?

¹ Due to a religious obligation, I was unable to timely advise co-defendants that Bergen County joined counsels' letter.



Therefore, the Bergen County Clerk respectfully requests that the Court stay the March 29th Order so that defendants can pursue their appeal

Respectfully submitted,

DECOTIIS, FITZPATRICK, COLE & GIBLIN, LLP

By: <u>/s/ Jason Nunnermacker</u> Jason S. Nunnermacker, Esq.

JN/st

cc: All parties by E-Filing