IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

ν.

Case No. 1:25-cv-01338-MAD-PJE

BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF MOTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE AND THE NAACP NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE TO INTERVENE AS DEFENDANTS

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP") and the NAACP New York State Conference ("NAACP NYS") (together, "Proposed Intervenors") hereby move, through undersigned counsel, to intervene as defendants in this matter to defend their and their members' significant interests, which are otherwise inadequately represented.

For the reasons discussed in the supporting memorandum filed alongside this Motion, Proposed Intervenors are entitled to intervene in this case as a matter of right under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 24(a)(2). In the alternative, Proposed Intervenors request permissive intervention pursuant to Rule 24(b). Moreover, pursuant to Rule 24(c), Proposed Intervenors file a Proposed Answer attached to this Motion as a proposed pleading.¹

Consistent with Local Rule 7.1(a)(2), Proposed Intervenors have conferred with the existing parties over email. Defendants New York State Board of Elections Co-Executive Director

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¹ Proposed Intervenors respectfully request leave to file a Rule 12(b) motion within the time period prescribed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or pursuant to any schedule set by this Court.

Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky and Commissioners Henry Berger and Essma Bagnuola do not oppose. Defendants New York State Board of Elections Co-Executive Director Raymond Riley, III and Commissioners Peter Kosinski and Anthony Casale stated that they are unable to provide a position on this Motion until their legal representation is finalized. Defendant Board of Elections of the State of New York, *ipso facto*, has not taken a position. Defendant State of New York stated that it also takes no position. Plaintiff United States of America stated that it would likely oppose but would take a final stance upon review of any motion.²

WHEREFORE, Proposed Intervenors respectfully request that the Court grant them intervention in the above-captioned matter.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Andrew G. Celli, Jr.

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* Application *pro hac vice* and Motion for Limited Admission forthcoming

Counsel for Proposed Intervenors

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² Consistent with Local Civil Rule 7.1(a)(2), Proposed Intervenors are amenable to a court conference with the assigned Magistrate Judge.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that all counsel of record who are deemed to have consented to electronic service are being served this 1st day of October, 2025, with a copy of this document via the Court's CM/ECF system.

> /s/ Andrew G. Celli, Jr. Andrew G. Celli, Jr.

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:25-cv-01338-MAD-PJE

MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE AND THE NAACP NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE'S MOTION TO INTERVENE AS DEFENDANTS

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INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Justice ("DOJ") recently embarked on an unprecedented nationwide campaign to compile sensitive personal information on voters in a centralized federal database. As part of this effort, DOJ sued New York last week, seeking to compel the State to turn over its complete and unredacted voter registration list, which contains sensitive and private information about every voter in New York. This legal assault intrudes not only upon New York's constitutional prerogative to maintain and protect its own voter registration list—it directly intrudes upon the privacy rights of individual New Yorkers who have good reason to fear their personal information being handed over to the federal government.

Accordingly, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP") and the NAACP New York State Conference ("NAACP NYS") (together, "Proposed Intervenors") move to intervene in this suit to defend against the federal government's overreach. The NAACP, which has approximately 200,000 members nationwide, is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the nation. Its mission is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race. NAACP NYS is the New York affiliate of the NAACP, representing over 50 branches and chapters across the state of New York and in excess of 12,000 members. New York law guarantees voters that their information—such as driver's license numbers and social security numbers—"shall not be released for public inspection." N.Y. Elec. Law § 3-220. DOJ's requested relief would run roughshod over these privacy protections, which Proposed Intervenors seek to preserve.

Proposed Intervenors are entitled to intervention as of right because they have significant interests that are at severe risk of impairment by this action, and the existing parties do not adequately represent those interests. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(a). Most significantly, they unquestionably have an interest in ensuring that the personal information of their members is not

improperly disclosed to DOJ, particularly since New York law explicitly protects such information. Indeed, the NAACP has a long history of vigorously guarding against the compelled disclosure of its members' personal information. *E.g.*, *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 458 (1958). While New York's election officials have thus far resisted disclosure, they do not adequately represent Proposed Intervenors; as governmental defendants, they must consider the "broader public-policy implications" of the issues presented in this suit, unlike Proposed Intervenors, who are solely concerned with protecting their members and constituents' privacy, "full stop." *Berger v. N.C. State Conf. of the NAACP*, 597 U.S. 179, 196 (2022) (citing *Trbovich v. United Mine Workers*, 404 U.S. 528, 538–39 (1972)). Further still, those defendants have indicated that they may be amenable to a partial production of voter registration data if the DOJ satisfies certain criteria—a compromise position the Proposed Intervenors are unlikely to share. That prospect further confirms that the Proposed Intervenors cannot blindly rely upon the existing Defendants to defend Proposed Intervenors' interests at stake in this case.

Alternatively, Proposed Intervenors should be granted permissive intervention under Rule 24(b), the requirements of which are readily satisfied. Doing so will ensure that New York voters have a voice in this litigation concerning the disclosure of their sensitive and personal information.

BACKGROUND

I. Federal law has long made voter list maintenance a state responsibility, consistent with the constitutional separation of powers.

The U.S. Constitution "invests the States with responsibility for the mechanics" of federal elections, subject to any decision by Congress to "preempt state legislative choices." *Foster v. Love*, 522 U.S. 67, 69 (1997); *see also* U.S. Const. art. I, § 4, cl. 1. Accordingly, as a default matter, the Constitution assigns states the responsibility of determining voter eligibility and maintaining lists of eligible voters. *See Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council of Ariz., Inc.*, 570 U.S. 1, 17 (2013).

While Congress has enacted certain laws governing voter registration, these laws augment existing "state voter-registration systems," *id.* at 5, and confirm that states are the custodians of voter registration data. In 1993, Congress enacted the National Voter Registration Act ("the NVRA") to serve "two main objectives: increasing voter registration and removing ineligible persons from the States' voter registration rolls." *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Inst.*, 584 U.S. 756, 761 (2018); *see also* 52 U.S.C. § 20501(b). The law charges *states*—not the federal government—with the "administration of voter registration for elections for Federal office," 52 U.S.C. § 20507(a), including as to maintaining voter lists (subject to strict procedural safeguards), *id.* § 20507(c)–(g). It similarly makes *states* the custodians of voter lists. *See Husted*, 584 U.S. at 761.

In the wake of the 2000 elections, Congress enacted the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") "to improve voting systems and voter access." *Republican Nat'l Comm. v. N.C. State Bd. of Elections*, 120 F.4th 390, 394 (4th Cir. 2024). Like the NVRA, HAVA regulates how *states* maintain voter registration lists, requiring them to create a "computerized statewide voter registration list." 52 U.S.C. § 21083(a)(1). It also requires states to "perform list maintenance" consistent with the NVRA. *Id.* § 21083(a)(2). HAVA is abundantly clear that this list is to be "defined, maintained, and administered at the *State* level." *Id.* § 21083(a)(1)(A) (emphasis added). Indeed, HAVA's legislative history stressed the importance of maintaining our decentralized electoral system to preserving liberty:

Historically, elections in this country have been administered at the state and local level. This system has many benefits that must be preserved. The dispersal of responsibility for election administration has made it impossible for a single centrally controlled authority to dictate how elections will be run, and thereby be able to control the outcome. This leaves the power and responsibility for running elections where it should be, in the hands of the citizens of this country.

See H.R. Rep. No. 107-329, pt. 1, at 31–32 (2001).

Consistent with that principle, neither the NVRA nor HAVA tasks the *federal government* with compiling a federal national voter registration list or micromanaging the states in their maintenance of such lists. Congress has traditionally "left it up to the States to maintain accurate lists of those eligible to vote in federal elections," *Husted*, 584 U.S. at 761, subject only to the specific requirements of the NVRA and HAVA, which purposefully operate through the states themselves—not DOJ and the federal government.

II. The Department of Justice has embarked on an unprecedented nationwide campaign to collect personal voter registration data held by the states.

This spring, DOJ launched a campaign to demand broad and unprecedented access to state voter files, including personal information about each registered voter. To date, DOJ has sent demands to over thirty-five states, with plans to make similar demands on all fifty states. 1 It seeks to use the data to create a national voter database that will, in turn, be used to substantiate President Trump's unfounded accusations that millions of non-citizens have voted illegally in recent elections. See Barrett & Corasaniti, supra note 1. The vast majority of states that have received such demands—including those led by Republican officeholders—have refused to comply, declining to turn over sensitive personal information that is typically protected by state law.²

DOJ sent New York a letter on June 30, 2025, demanding, among other things, New York's "[s]tatewide voter registration list." Dkt. 1 ¶ 42–43. DOJ reiterated its requests on August 14, id. ¶ 45, demanding that New York produce its entire computerized statewide voter registration list,

¹ See Devlin Barrett & Nick Corasaniti, Trump Administration Quietly Seeks to Build National Voter Roll, N.Y. Times (Sep. 9, 2025), https://perma.cc/8VP4-WRXD.

² See Jonathan Shorman, Some Republican states resist DOJ demand for private voter data, Stateline (Sep. 18, 2025), https://stateline.org/2025/09/18/some-republican-states-resist-dojdemand-for-private-voter-data/ (reporting only one state—Indiana—has so far given DOJ everything it sought).

"with all fields, including each registrant's full name, date of birth, residential address, their state driver's license number, and the last four digits of their Social Security number," *id.* ¶ 46.

New York responded on August 29, sharing only the public version of its statewide voter registration list. *Id.* ¶ 48. The Complaint, which does not attach the relevant correspondence, indicates a partisan split between the State Board of Election's Democratic and Republican members, with the latter urging production of the complete, unredacted list. *Id.*

III. The Department of Justice sues New York to obtain its complete registration list.

DOJ filed this suit on September 25, seeking to compel New York to provide its full statewide voter registration list. *Id.* ¶ 7. It names the State of New York, the bipartisan State Board of Elections, and each of the State Board's members—Democratic and Republican alike—as Defendants. *See id.* ¶¶ 11–18. DOJ cited three federal statutes to justify its claims: the Civil Rights Act of 1960, the NVRA, and HAVA. *Id.* ¶ 1. None supports DOJ's sweeping demand.

First, DOJ invokes Section 303 of the Civil Rights Act of 1960 (the "CRA"), a long dormant Civil Rights-era law that permits DOJ to review certain voting records to investigate "question[s] concerning infringement or denial of . . . constitutional voting rights." Kennedy v. Lynd, 306 F.2d 222, 228 (5th Cir. 1962). Congress enacted the law to preserve "the right of all qualified citizens to vote without discrimination on account of race," and specifically to facilitate "investigation[s]" authorized under the Civil Rights Act of 1957, which recalcitrant local officials had frustrated through the destruction of records. H.R. Rep. No. 86-956, at 1944 (1959). This history "leaves no doubt but that [Section 303] is designed to secure a more effective protection of the right to vote." Alabama ex rel. Gallion v. Rogers, 187 F. Supp. 848, 853 (M.D. Ala. 1960), aff'd sub nom. Dinkens v. Att'y Gen. of U.S., 285 F.2d 430 (5th Cir. 1961). But DOJ admits that is not its purpose here; rather it claims to be evaluating New York's list maintenance efforts under

the NVRA and HAVA—statutes with their own separate disclosure rules (under the NVRA specifically) and enforcement mechanisms. Thus, the Civil Rights Act is inapplicable here.³

Second, though the NVRA requires states to permit public inspection of certain records, 52 U.S.C. § 20507(i)(1), courts have consistently held that "nothing in the text of the NVRA prohibits the appropriate redaction of uniquely or highly sensitive personal information in" those records, such as driver's license numbers, partial social security numbers, and dates of birth. Pub. Int. Legal Found., Inc. v. Bellows, 92 F.4th 36, 56 (1st Cir. 2024) (collecting cases).

Third, unlike the NVRA, HAVA has no disclosure provisions at all, and DOJ's complaint and letters cite no case law or other authority for the radical proposition that the mere existence of DOJ's authority to enforce HAVA's "uniform and nondiscriminatory" requirements entitles it to unfettered access to state voter registration lists upon demand. 52 U.S.C. § 21111.

IV. Proposed Intervenors' sensitive personal information is placed in jeopardy by DOJ's demands.

New York law guarantees voters that their information—such as driver's license numbers and social security numbers—"shall not be released for public inspection." N.Y. Elec. Law § 3-220. In addition to defending their privacy interests, Proposed Intervenors have well-founded concerns about DOJ's intended use of their sensitive and personal voter information, particularly given that many of their members hold political views and engage in civic activities disfavored by

³ Even if Section 303 did apply, it does not prohibit states from redacting confidential and sensitive voter information that has nothing to do with investigating the denial of the right to vote, just as they may under the NVRA. See Pub. Int. Legal Found., 92 F.4th at 56.

the current presidential administration, which has repeatedly disregarded privacy protections over sensitive personal data.⁴

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The NAACP is the nation's oldest organization dedicated to the advancement of civil rights in the United States. See Ex. A, Declaration of Anthony P. Ashton ("Ashton Decl.") ¶ 4. Founded in 1909 by pioneers of racial justice, the NAACP's core mission has long been to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all people. Id. The NAACP is a formal membership organization, with more than 200,000 members nationwide and in excess of 12,000 in New York alone. Id. ¶ 5. In furtherance of its mission, the NAACP works to address the concerns of the national organization, its state chapters, and individual members, including in areas such as voting rights, civil rights, and privacy concerns. Id. ¶ 6. The NAACP accomplishes this goal by engaging in several different programming efforts, including mobilizing voters through robust non-partisan civic engagement and election-related outreach efforts, as well as voter protection campaigns aimed at ensuring the right to vote is respected and protected. Id. ¶ 8.

Today, many of the NAACP's members reasonably fear retaliation by the current federal administration—and they are accordingly concerned about the DOJ's efforts to obtain sensitive personal information about them and nearly every other American. *Id.* ¶¶ 10–12. This is regrettably not a novel concern for this organization—many of the NAACP's leaders and politically vocal

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⁴ For example, public reports have indicated that the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) placed the security of millions of Social Security numbers at risk through improper maintenance. See Nicholas Nehamas, DOGE Put Critical Social Security Data at Risk, Whistle-Blower Says, N.Y. Times (Aug. 26, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/26/us/politics/doge-social-security-data.html. And just last week, the National Archives allegedly released the military records of a New Jersey gubernatorial candidate in violation of the Privacy Act, with the apparent aim of seeking to help her opponent. See Caroline Vakil, Sherrill campaign slams release of military records to opponent's ally, The Hill (Sep. 25, 2025, 5:23 PM), https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/5522531-trump-admin-leaks-sherrill-records/.

members have been targeted by unjust espionage and investigation—and in some instances physical violence—because of their advocacy efforts. Id. ¶ 12. In view of this long history of retaliation against the organization's work to enfranchise Black Americans, the NAACP takes very seriously its obligation to protect the privacy of its members from government overreach. Id. ¶¶ 7, 12. The DOJ's efforts to compel the disclosure of massive amounts of sensitive voter data including data of the NAACP's tens of thousands of members in New York—is therefore deeply distressing to the NAACP and its members, who deeply value their privacy, particularly when it comes to voting. *Id.* ¶¶ 11–14. Consequently, if the DOJ succeeds in obtaining the sensitive data it seeks in this lawsuit, the NAACP will be forced to contend with not only a growing distrust of the government, but an increasing hesitancy among members and constituents about actively participating in the franchise. *Id.* ¶ 13. The threatened disclosure therefore endangers NAACP's mission and voter registration and engagement efforts, as it fears that the possibility of disclosure to DOJ will discourage prospective voters from registering and turning out to vote. *Id.* ¶¶ 14–15. Given that the information sought by the DOJ includes extremely sensitive personal identifying information and increases the risk of identity theft and other forms of exploitation, the NAACP has a direct interest in protecting the fundamental privacy rights of its individual members. Id. ¶ 14.

These concerns are exacerbated by the fact that President Trump's false claims of voter fraud have disproportionately targeted and sought to disenfranchise Black communities and voters. 5 The NAACP previously filed litigation during the President's efforts, in the wake of the

⁵ See, e.g., Ashley Nguyen, Kayla Ruble & Tim Craig, Anger Builds in Black community over Trump's claims of voter fraud in big cities, Wash. Post (Nov. 20, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/2020/11/20/f0d11954-2b71-11eb-9b14-ad872157ebc 9_story.html; Juana Summers, Trump Push to Invalidate Votes in Heavily Black Cities Alarms

2020 elections, to disenfranchise thousands of voters, which disproportionately targeted Black voters and communities. *See Mich. Welfare Rts. Org. v. Trump*, No. 20-cv-03388-TSC (D.D.C.). In view of these past actions, many Black voters in New York and across the country fear that the DOJ's most recent efforts are a prelude to similar disenfranchisement efforts.

NAACP New York State Conference. With over 12,000 members across over 50 branches, college chapters, and youth councils across New York, NAACP NYS works to ensure political, educational, and economic justice for people of African descent. Ex. B, Declaration of L. Joy Williams ("Williams Decl.") ¶¶ 3–4. Like the NAACP, NAACP NYS has a long history of fighting for and protecting the civil rights and voting rights of its members and constituents more broadly, including by engaging in voter outreach, education, and activism. *Id.* ¶¶ 5–6. These efforts frequently include registering young voters for the first time and registering previously incarcerated citizens whose civil rights have been restored. *Id.* ¶ 7. The DOJ's effort to obtain New York's complete voter registration data with all sensitive fields threatens the interests of NAACP NYS. Just in the last decade, NAACP NYS's constituents have endured voter purges and governmental targeting for purported voter fraud. *Id.* ¶ 8. The federal government has also recently made clear that it will not hesitate to use any and all means at its disposal to target Americans that it disagrees with or whose voices it thinks should be silenced. Id. ¶ 11. Consequently, if DOJ obtains the sensitive data it seeks in this lawsuit, NAACP NYS and its members will face deepening distrust of the system and increased deterrence from participating in elections, because of the risk of such data being weaponized against Americans who are disfavored by the current administration. Id. ¶ 12-14. This disclosure could also greatly damage public trust in our

Civil Rights Groups, NPR (Nov. 24, 2020, 6:26 AM), https://www.npr.org/2020/11/24/938187233/trump-push-to-invalidate-votes-in-heavily-black-cities-alarms-civil-rights-group.

organization. *Id.* ¶ 10. Like the NAACP, NAACP NYS is forced to contend with a growing distrust of the government and hesitance among members and constituents to actively participate and has a direct interest in protecting the fundamental privacy rights of its individual members. *Id.* ¶ 14. These threats all work to undermine NAACP NYS's ultimate mission of supporting civic engagement for our members and our community. *Id.*

LEGAL STANDARD

The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure require courts to grant intervention to any movant who "claims an interest relating to the property or transaction that is the subject of the action, and is so situated that disposing of the action may as a practical matter impair or impede the movant's ability to protect its interest, unless existing parties adequately represent that interest." Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(a)(2). Consequently, "[t]o prevail on a motion for intervention as of right, a movant must '(1) timely file an application, (2) show an interest in the action, (3) demonstrate that the interest may be impaired by the disposition of the action, and (4) show that the interest is not protected adequately by the parties to the action." In re N.Y.C. Policing During Summer 2020 Demonstrations, 27 F.4th 792, 799 (2d Cir. 2022) (quoting "R" Best Produce, Inc. v. Shulman-Rabin Mktg. Corp., 467 F.3d 238, 240 (2d Cir. 2006)). "The inquiry under Rule 24(a)(2) is a flexible one and the factors should 'be read not discretely, but together." Sec. Inv. Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC, 550 B.R. 241, 248 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2016) (citation omitted) (quoting United States v. Hooker Chems. & Plastics Corp., 749 F.2d 968, 983 (2d Cir. 1984)). "A showing that a very strong interest exists may warrant intervention upon a lesser showing of impairment or inadequacy of representation. Similarly, where representation is clearly inadequate, a lesser interest may suffice as a basis for granting intervention." *Id.* (quoting *Hooker Chems.*, 749 F.2d at 983); see also Hooker Chems., 749 F.2d at 983 (discussing flexibility of Rule 24(a) inquiry and recognizing that most recent substantive changes to Rule 24 "focused on abandoning formalistic restrictions in favor of 'practical considerations' to allow courts to reach pragmatic solutions to intervention problems" (citing 1966 Advisory Committee Note)); *Tachiona ex rel. Tachiona v. Mugabe*, 186 F. Supp. 2d 383, 394 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) (similar); *Talarico Bros. Bldg. Corp. v. Union Carbide Corp.*, No. 17-CV-1041S, 2021 WL 732692, at *2 (W.D.N.Y. Feb. 25, 2021) (noting "Rule 24 is to be given a liberal construction").

Additionally, courts retain discretion to grant "[p]ermissive intervention . . . when a proposed intervenor 'has a claim or defense that shares with the main action a common question of law or fact." *In re N.Y.C. Policing*, 27 F.4th at 804 (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b)(1)(B)). This is a "liberal standard[]" that favors grants of intervention. *Lichtman v. Blom*, No. 89 CIV. 5643 (JFK), 1990 WL 186856, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 19, 1990); *see also In re Ionosphere Clubs, Inc.*, 101 B.R. 844, 853 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1989) ("Under Federal Rule 24(b), permissive intervention is also given a liberal construction.").

ARGUMENT

I. Proposed Intervenors are entitled to intervene as of right.

A. The motion to intervene is timely and will not prejudice the parties.

In determining whether a motion for intervention as of right is timely, courts consider the totality of the circumstances facing the movant, with a focus on four factors: "(1) how long the applicant had notice of the interest before [he] made the motion to intervene; (2) prejudice to existing parties resulting from any delay; (3) prejudice to the applicant if the motion is denied; and (4) any unusual circumstances militating for or against a finding of timeliness." *Hoblock v. Albany Cnty. Bd. of Elections*, 233 F.R.D. 95, 98 (N.D.N.Y. 2005) (alteration in original) (quoting *D'Amato v. Deutsche Bank*, 236 F.3d 78, 84 (2d Cir. 2001)). These factors present a "flexible" inquiry. *U.S. Equal Emp. Opportunity Comm'n v. Birchez Assocs., LLC*, No. 119-CV-810 (LEK/DJS), 2021 WL 1115513, at *1 (N.D.N.Y. Mar. 24, 2021) (citation omitted).

Proposed Intervenors' motion is indisputably timely. DOJ filed suit on September 25, which was the first day on which Proposed Intervenors had notice of this case and the risk it posed to their interests. This motion comes just six days later—before any case schedule has been set, before any Defendants have answered, and while this case remains at its earliest stage. That plainly satisfies the first factor. *See, e.g., Colony Ins. Co. v. Oz Sols.*, No. 24 CIV. 1935 (PAE), 2025 WL 2355734, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 14, 2025) (concluding motion to intervene was timely when filed before the close of fact discovery and within two months of receiving notice of the action); *Brooks v. Sussex Cnty. State Bank*, 167 F.R.D. 347, 350 (N.D.N.Y. 1996) (concluding motion was timely when filed "slightly more than two months after the complaint was filed," which reflected "only a short period of time between commencement of the action" and intervention).

Allowing intervention would also not require altering any deadlines because there are no existing deadlines and the case is currently stayed in accordance with General Order No. 48 entered today by the Chief Judge of this District. *See* N.D.N.Y. Gen. Order #48 (Oct. 1, 2025). Proposed Intervenors also agree to abide by any future deadlines set by the Court or agreed to by the existing parties. Accordingly, there is no conceivable prejudice to the existing parties. *Hulinsky v. County of Westchester*, No. 22-CV-06950 (PMH), 2023 WL 3162428, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 28, 2023) (concluding there was no prejudice where intervenors did not seek to interfere with any existing schedules in the case); *Allco Fin. Ltd. v. Etsy*, 300 F.R.D. 83, 87 (D. Conn. 2014) (concluding there would be no prejudice to the parties where the intervenors represented they would "abide by the scheduling order already in place"). In contrast, the prejudice to Proposed Intervenors if their motion is denied is significant, given the interests at risk of impairment in this case. *See infra* Section I.B. Additionally, there are no other unusual circumstances militating against a finding of

timeliness. Proposed Intervenors therefore satisfy the timeliness factor for intervention as of right. *See Brooks*, 167 F.R.D. at 351.

B. Proposed Intervenors have significantly protectable interests in protecting their sensitive personal information from improper disclosure to DOJ.

Proposed Intervenors have a significantly protectable interest in protecting their sensitive and personal information. "For an interest to be cognizable by Rule 24(a)(2), it must be 'direct, substantial, and legally protectable." *Bridgeport Guardians, Inc. v. Delmonte*, 602 F.3d 469, 473 (2d Cir. 2010) (citation omitted). But, consistent with the liberal standards of Rule 24, the Second Circuit has "cautioned against requiring that a proposed intervenor identify a narrow interest amounting to a legal entitlement." *In re N.Y.C. Policing*, 27 F.4th at 801; *see also Hooker Chems.*, 749 F.2d at 983 (recognizing "components of the Rule are not bright lines, but ranges").

Proposed Intervenors satisfy that standard. First, they risk having their members' sensitive information disclosed to DOJ. See Ashton Decl. ¶ 5; Williams Decl. ¶ 4. Courts regularly find that precisely these types of concerns support intervention. See, e.g., Kalbers v. U.S. Dep't of Just., 22 F.4th 816, 827 (9th Cir. 2021) (recognizing "straightforward" significantly protectable interest in confidentiality of non-public documents); In re Sealed Case, 237 F.3d 657, 663–64 (D.C. Cir. 2001) (holding intervenors had "legally cognizable interest in maintaining the confidentiality" of records). Moreover, the personal voter registration data of their members and constituents is protected from disclosure under New York law. See N.Y. Elec. Law § 3-220(1) (prohibiting the voter's driver's license or non-driver photo ID number and social security number from being released for public inspection). Disclosure would further damage our public standing as an organization that regularly encourages individuals to participate in the political process who would otherwise avoid it. Id. ¶ 10.

Proposed Intervenors' voter registration and voter engagement efforts will also be harmed by the disclosure of their members' information to DOJ. In particular, Proposed Intervenors' members and constituents belong to communities that are particularly fearful of retaliation and harassment from the federal government. See Ashton Decl. ¶¶ 11–13; Williams Decl. ¶¶ 10–12. In view of the current administration's harsh treatment of Black communities—as well as the administration's past and present rhetoric about voter fraud and election corruption disproportionately targeted at largely Black cities—many of Proposed Intervenors' members even those plainly qualified to vote—may be hesitant to engage in the political process where it means risking scrutiny and retaliation. See Ashton Decl. ¶¶ 12–13; Williams Decl. ¶ 11. The distrust sown by the DOJ's aggressive demands for personal information will therefore directly frustrate Proposed Intervenors' core mission of driving civic engagement in New York and across the country, especially where it threatens to tarnish Proposed Intervenors' trusted position as a facilitator of civic engagement and voting participation. See Ashton Decl. ¶ 15; Williams Decl. ¶¶ 10, 14. Courts have long recognized that organizations have a significant protectable interest in preserving and pursuing their own mission-critical organizational activities, particularly when it comes to ensuring their constituents' ability to vote. See, e.g., Issa v. Newsom, No. 2:20-CV-01044-MCE-CKD, 2020 WL 3074351, at *3 (E.D. Cal. June 10, 2020); Paher v. Cegavske, No. 3:20-cv-00243-MMD-WGC, 2020 WL 2042365, at *2 (D. Nev. Apr. 28, 2020); cf. La Unión del Pueblo Entero v. Abbott, 29 F.4th 299, 306 (5th Cir. 2022) (recognizing that a political party had a "legally protectable interest" because they "expend significant resources in the recruiting and training of volunteers and poll watchers who participate in the election process").

Indeed, such interests are so stark that they frequently satisfy the even greater requirements for showing an Article III injury or irreparable harm. *See Brooklyn Branch of NAACP v. Kosinski*,

735 F. Supp. 3d 421, 436 (S.D.N.Y. 2024) (concluding Brooklyn NAACP had organizational standing considering its "long history of engagement efforts to support all voters in gaining access to the franchise"); see also Williams v. Salerno, 792 F.2d 323, 326 (2d Cir. 1986) (recognizing that denying right to vote to registration applicants constitutes irreparable harm); Am. Fed'n of Gov't Emps. v. U.S. Off. of Pers. Mgmt., 777 F. Supp. 3d 253, 269 (S.D.N.Y. 2025) ("Several courts have ... found standing to exist when an unauthorized third party was granted access to a plaintiff's legally protected data, due to the resulting harm's resemblance to intrusion upon seclusion."). Even though Proposed Intervenors need not establish Article III standing here, see Hoblock, 233 F.R.D. at 97, that they can likely satisfy even the "more stringent" requirement of Article III standing "compels the conclusion that they have an adequate interest" for purposes of Rule 24, Yniguez v. Arizona, 939 F.2d 727, 735 (9th Cir. 1991).

C. Proposed Intervenors' interests are not adequately represented by existing parties.

Proposed Intervenors cannot be assured adequate representation in this matter if they are denied intervention. The "burden to show inadequacy of representation . . . is a minimal one, and not onerous." *Hoblock*, 233 F.R.D. at 99; *accord Trbovich*, 404 U.S. at 538 n.10 (explaining this requirement "should be treated as minimal"). While the Second Circuit demands a greater "showing of inadequacy in cases where the putative intervenor and a named party have the same ultimate objective," *Butler, Fitzgerald & Potter v. Sequa Corp.*, 250 F.3d 171, 179 (2d Cir. 2001), it is enough to show that a proposed intervenor "has a legal argument that 'could not be equally asserted' by the existing parties." *Does 1 Through 7 v. Taliban*, No. 6:22-CV-990, 2023 WL 4532763, at *5 (N.D.N.Y. July 12, 2023) (quoting *Schwartz v. Town of Huntington Zoning Bd. of Appeals*, 191 F.R.D. 357, 359 (E.D.N.Y. 2000)), *aff'd sub nom. on other grounds Doe #1 v. Deposit Guarantee Fund*, No. 23-1158-CV, 2025 WL 706502 (2d Cir. Mar. 5, 2025). Ultimately,

a proposed intervenor need only show that they "might not be adequately represented" by existing parties. *In re N.Y.C. Policing*, 27 F.4th at 803. Courts are thus "liberal in finding" this requirement satisfied because "there is good reason in most cases to suppose that the applicant is the best judge of the representation of the applicant's own interests." 7C Charles Alan Wright & Arthur R. Miller, Federal Practice & Procedure § 1909 (3d ed. 2024). Here, Proposed Intervenors have distinct interests from the existing parties, all of which are governmental actors bound by federal and state laws governing their voter list maintenance activities. No existing parting adequately represents those distinct interests.

To start, DOJ naturally does not represent Proposed Intervenors' interests, as they seek to forcibly compel production of New York's unredacted state voter registration list. While the existing Defendants have, to date, resisted that demand, they too do not adequately represent Proposed Intervenors' specific interests. Federal courts have "often concluded that governmental entities do not adequately represent the interests of aspiring intervenors." Fund for Animals, Inc. v. Norton, 322 F.3d 728, 736 (D.C. Cir. 2003). This is because a government-official defendant's interests are "necessarily colored by [their] view of the public welfare rather than the more parochial views of a proposed intervenor whose interest is personal to it." Kleissler v. U.S. Forest Serv., 157 F.3d 964, 972 (3d Cir. 1998) (explaining that the burden in these circumstances is "comparatively light"). Simply put, "the government's representation of the public interest may not be 'identical to the individual parochial interest' of a particular group just because 'both entities occupy the same posture in the litigation." Citizens for Balanced Use v. Mont. Wilderness Ass'n, 647 F.3d 893, 899 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting WildEarth Guardians v. U.S. Forest Serv., 573 F.3d 992, 996 (10th Cir. 2009); see also Conservation L. Found. of New Eng., Inc. v. Mosbacher, 966 F.2d 39, 44 (1st Cir. 1992) (explaining that "a governmental entity charged by law with

representing the public interest of its citizens" will not necessarily "advance the narrower interest of a private entity").

The Supreme Court recently emphasized this point, explaining that public officials must "bear in mind broader public-policy implications," whereas private litigants—like Proposed Intervenors—seek to vindicate their own rights "full stop." Berger, 597 U.S. at 195-96 (citing Trbovich, 404 U.S. at 538–39). Thus, the Supreme Court cautioned that courts should not conduct the adequacy of representation analysis at too "high [a] level of abstraction," and reaffirmed that, even where the parties' interests "seem[] closely aligned," the burden to demonstrate inadequate representation remains "minimal" unless those interests are "identical." Id. at 196 (citation omitted). In other words, even if New York continues to also oppose the relief that DOJ seeks at a high level of abstraction, it does not follow that they share "identical" interests to civic membership organizations committed to voter engagement and turnout. See id. 6

Here, the existing Defendants and Proposed Intervenors do not share "identical" interests. For one, the existing Defendants are obliged to enforce the requirements of the NVRA and HAVA, in addition to various state laws governing maintenance of the voter registration list. Thus, by definition, they have an obligation to weigh and carry out public duties that Proposed Intervenors do not share. See, e.g., Bellitto v. Snipes, No. 16-cv-61474, 2016 WL 5118568, at *2 (S.D. Fla. Sep. 21, 2016) (concluding adequate representation was not guaranteed where existing defendant was "an elected official" whose interpretation of the NVRA might not be aligned with intervenors' interests). Indeed, the NVRA specifically requires them to "balance competing objectives" maintaining accurate and current voter rolls while promoting access to the ballot box—that do not

⁶ It bears noting as DOJ alleges that in its August 29 letter, only the Democratic counsel for the state of New York opposed the relief that DOJ seeks here; "[t]he Republican counsel maintained that the entire list should be shared with the United States." Dkt. 1 ¶ 48.

pertain to the Proposed Intervenors or their interests. *Bellitto v. Snipes*, 935 F.3d 1192, 1201 (11th Cir. 2019). On top of that, the State Board of Elections is a bipartisan body, meaning it must balance the competing views of its various members. Both it and the State are also heavily reliant on federal dollars to administer elections, meaning they have a strong "interest in bringing [this] litigation to an end by settlement[]" with DOJ. *Brennan v. N.Y.C. Bd. of Educ.*, 260 F.3d 123, 133 (2d Cir. 2001). In view of those circumstances, adequate representation of Proposed Intervenors' interests is hardly "assured." *Id.* (explaining this factor is met where parties' interests are not "so similar" as to assure adequacy of representation). Simply put, Proposed Intervenors are not burdened with the existing Defendants' public duties and obligations to enforce the NVRA and HAVA—they are focused entirely on maintaining the privacy of their sensitive personal information and safeguarding the public's trust in Proposed Intervenors as facilitators of civic engagement in New York. *See* Ashton Decl. ¶¶ 10–11, 13; Williams Decl. ¶¶ 10–11, 13. As a result, they are well-positioned to press legal arguments that cannot be "equally asserted" by the existing parties given their public duties. *Does 1 Through 7*, 2023 WL 4532763, at *5.

At bottom, the government entities and public officials on both sides of the case do not stand in the same shoes as Proposed Intervenors and thus do not sufficiently represent their interests, which are directly impacted by the disposition of this matter.

II. Proposed Intervenors should alternatively be granted permissive intervention.

This Court should alternatively exercise its discretion to grant permissive intervention. Rule 24(b) is readily satisfied: Proposed Intervenors assert a "defense that shares with the main action a common question of law or fact," and granting intervention would not "unduly delay or prejudice the adjudication" of the matter. Fed. R. Civ. P. 24(b). Proposed Intervenors have moved promptly, *see supra* Section I.A, and agree to abide by any schedule set by the Court or agreed to by the original parties, meaning there will be no delay or prejudice. And Proposed Intervenors'

defense requires resolution of the same factual and legal issues raised in the underlying lawsuit. See Ex. C (Proposed Answer).

The Second Circuit has also identified additional factors the Court can consider in weighing permissive intervention requests. See Citizens Against Casino Gambling in Erie Cnty. v. Hogen, 417 F. App'x 49, 50 (2d Cir. 2011) (citing H.L. Hayden Co. of N.Y. v. Siemens Med. Sys., Inc., 797 F.2d 85, 89 (2d Cir. 1986)). Those considerations include the nature of the proposed intervenors' interests, the degree to which those interests are adequately represented by other parties, and whether the proposed intervenors are likely to contribute to the full development of the factual and legal issues in the case. See id. Each of those factors buttress the case for intervention here.

First, Proposed Intervenors seek to defend important personal privacy interests, as well as interests unique to civic organizations. See supra Section I.B; cf. U.S. Dep't of Just. v. Reps. Comm. for Freedom of Press, 489 U.S. 749, 769 (1989) (recognizing the strong personal interest in maintaining privacy of personal information). Second, these parochial interests are not identical to the interests of the existing governmental defendants and may not be fully advanced absent their intervention. See supra Section I.C. Finally, the harms vulnerable voters face and the arguments that they advance will certainly contribute to the "full development of the underlying factual issues

While these additional factors overlap with certain considerations under Rule 24(a)(2), it does not follow that permissive intervention must be denied if Rule 24(a)(2) is not satisfied. To the contrary, "district courts routinely grant permissive intervention to applicants even in cases where the court has found that the existing party adequately represents the proposed intervenor's interest." New York v. Nat'l Sci. Found., No. 25 CIV.4452 (JPC), 2025 WL 1793858, at *5 (S.D.N.Y. June 30, 2025); see also Hum. Servs. Council of New York v. City of New York, No. 21 CIV. 11149 (PGG), 2022 WL 4585815, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. Sep. 29, 2022) (same and collecting cases); Green v. Biden, No. 24-CV-1975 (MKB), 2024 WL 4932751, at *7 (E.D.N.Y. Dec. 2, 2024) (similar and granting permissive intervention); Louis Berger Grp., Inc. v. State Bank of India, 802 F. Supp. 2d 482, 488–89 (S.D.N.Y. 2011) (granting permissive intervention despite finding that movant "cannot satisfy the impairment element of Rule 24(a)(2)").

in the suit and to the just and equitable adjudication of the legal questions presented." *H.L. Hayden*, 797 F.2d at 89 (citation omitted). Whereas the existing Defendants will have to present arguments in a manner consistent with their duties under the NVRA and HAVA, *see Bellitto*, 935 F.3d at 1201, Proposed Intervenors can present arguments guided solely by the interests of New Yorkers and civic organizations that will be harmed by DOJ's requested relief. *See supra* Section I.C. Proposed Intervenors therefore stand ready to "offer a unique, personal and highly relevant factual perspective to the law, its development, and its impact." *Ass'n of Conn. Lobbyists LLC v. Garfield*, 241 F.R.D. 100, 103 (D. Conn. 2007); *see also Christa McAuliffe Intermediate Sch. PTO, Inc. v. de Blasio*, No. 18 CIV. 11657 (ER), 2020 WL 1432213, at *8 n.9 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 24, 2020) (explaining the "unique perspective" of people "directly impacted" by challenged action and organizations serving such people would "greatly contribute to the Court's understanding of the case" (citation omitted)); *Commack Self-Serv. Kosher Meats, Inc. v. Rubin*, 170 F.R.D. 93, 106 (E.D.N.Y. 1996) (similar).

It is for these reasons that courts routinely grant permissive intervention to civic organizations to ensure their voices and the voices of their members are heard when litigation implicates the rights and privacy of all voters, notwithstanding the presence of governmental defendants ostensibly charged with upholding broader conceptions of the public interest. *See, e.g.*, *1789 Found. Inc. v. Fontes*, No. CV-24-02987-PHX-SPL, 2025 WL 834919, at *4 (D. Ariz. Mar. 17, 2025) (permitting advocacy organizations to intervene as defendants); *Pub. Int. Legal Found., Inc. v. Winfrey*, 463 F. Supp. 3d 795, 802 (E.D. Mich. 2020) (permitting voting rights organizations to intervene as defendants).

Thus, in keeping with the "liberal standard[]" in favor of permissive intervention, Lichtman, 1990 WL 186856, at *1, and because Proposed Intervenors' participation will assist rather than prejudice the efficient development and resolution of this matter, the Court should grant permissive intervention if it does not find that Proposed Intervenors may intervene as of right.

CONCLUSION

The Court should grant Proposed Intervenors' motion to intervene.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Andrew G. Celli, Jr.

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Counsel for Proposed Intervenors

^{*} Application pro hac vice and Motion for Limited Admission forthcoming

Exhibit A

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff.

v.

Case No. 1:25-cv-01338-MAD-PJE

BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF ANTHONY P. ASHTON

- I, Anthony P. Ashton, declare as follows:
- I am a U.S. citizen, over the age of 18, am competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the facts and information set forth in this declaration.
- I am Senior Associate General Counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP"), and I have served in that position since October 2020. I am a lifetime member of the NAACP.
- The NAACP is headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, and operates across the entire country, including New York.
- 4. The NAACP was founded in 1909 by pioneers of racial justice in the United States. The NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States. Its mission is to achieve equality, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.
- 5. The NAACP is a non-partisan organization that maintains many units, including state and state-regional conferences that cover every state plus the District of Columbia. The

NAACP has over two thousand local branches, college chapters, prison chapters, and youth councils. In total, the NAACP has approximately 200,000 members, including approximately 13,000 in New York.

- 6. As Senior Associate General Counsel for the NAACP, I work to address legal concerns of the National NAACP, the various NAACP units, and individual NAACP members. I am familiar with the various challenges that our members face, including challenges related to voting rights, civil rights, and privacy concerns.
- 7. The NAACP has a long history of its members and constituents facing legal retaliation for their advocacy around civil rights and voting rights. Accordingly, the NAACP has a proud tradition of fighting for and protecting its members, constituents, and the Black community at large from legal retaliation. In a seminal case on the First Amendment, the NAACP successfully defended against the disclosure of its membership lists to the State of Alabama on the basis of the right to free association. *See NAACP v. Alabama*, 357 U.S. 449 (1958). The NAACP maintains this longstanding tradition of protecting members and supporters from the unlawful disclosure of their personal information in response to government overreach and unlawful invasions of privacy.
- 8. Among our many initiatives, the NAACP works to mobilize voters through robust non-partisan civic engagement and election-related programming. For example, NAACP, in conjunction with partners across the country, has launched programs focused on turning out voters through direct voter contact, mass communication, targeted digital mobilization, and SMS texting. In the lead up to the 2024 elections, the NAACP recruited over 100,000 volunteers across the country to execute these programs. The NAACP has also engaged in voter protection efforts, advocating on behalf of voters across the country to ensure that the law is followed and that the right to vote is respected and protected. These efforts include litigation, a voter protection hub and

voter guides, and voter protection command centers staffed by dozens of lawyers and law students. Naturally, voter registration is crucial to all of these civic engagement efforts. The NAACP is currently taking steps to educate and register voters for elections, including referenda, taking place in November 2025. The NAACP is currently a party in lawsuits to protect voting rights and is seeking judgments that will impact the 2026 elections. As it does in every election cycle, the NAACP anticipates ramping up its election voter protection efforts as the 2026 elections draw near.

- 9. The NAACP plays a crucial role for its members and constituents as the Black community's most trusted messenger and the country's largest civil rights organization, especially in a public square rife with political noise and distractions.
- 10. I understand that the Department of Justice has recently sued New York in order to obtain complete, unredacted voter registration data of all voters in the state, including their driver's license numbers and partial social security numbers. If the Department of Justice is successful in obtaining this information, it will harm NAACP's mission and ability to successfully execute its programs by risking the sensitive data of its members and constituents. Such efforts amount to government-sanctioned voter intimidation. This will deter our members from engaging in the political process for fear of government mishandling or weaponization of such data, including through improper removal of voters from the rolls.
- 11. My concerns are exacerbated by the fact that the current administration has targeted people with whom it disagrees, or whose voices it thinks should be silenced, by using any and all information and resources within its possession against such people. This includes using information held by federal agencies against political opponents, such as the recent public disclosure of a New Jersey gubernatorial candidate's military records, which contained various

pieces of sensitive and confidential personal details. Similarly, many of our community members are disturbed by efforts by the so-called Department of Government Efficiency ("DOGE") to obtain social security data of all Americans, despite questionable data management policies by that agency and the perception that, without seeking or obtaining consent from millions of the affected Americans, this confidential information may end up in the hands of private actors.

- 12. Unfortunately, the NAACP, its members, and its constituents have been singled out and targeted many times over the years by government officials and other individuals who disagree with our mission. Our leaders and politically vocal members, for example, have been targeted with unjust espionage and investigation—and sometimes even physical violence—because of their advocacy efforts. Against this backdrop, the prospect of disclosures of mass amounts of sensitive voter data to the Department of Justice is especially chilling for the NAACP and its members.
- 13. I am concerned that disclosure of voters' private information on New York's voter rolls will deter qualified voters in our communities from participating in the franchise. That is particularly so because the Department of Justice's efforts do not reflect good faith efforts to improve the electoral system or voter rolls. Instead those efforts appear driven by a desire to perpetuate misinformation and disinformation about of non-existent voter fraud and to punish people who oppose the President's agenda. The federal government's demand for New York's complete voter registration list is likely to sow distrust of the electoral system, which further frustrates our mission to convince community members to trust and make their voices heard at the ballot box. These concerns are especially notable for voters who are most skeptical of the electoral system and worried about improper government scrutiny, including younger voters, voters who are naturalized citizens, first-generation voters, and voters who were formerly incarcerated.

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14. In addition to my concerns about the Department of Justice misusing personal voter

data, I am also concerned about whether they will properly maintain and protect such data if they

obtain it. The actions that the Department of Justice has taken to compel the production of sensitive

personal information of New York voters, as well as voters across the country, do not give me

confidence that the Department will respect federal or state privacy laws or be a reliable custodian

of the personal information of the communities NAACP works with in New York. As explained,

many of our members are disturbed by reports of DOGE negligently storing sensitive Social

Security information. As a result, I am extremely concerned about the improper disclosure of the

personal information of community members that NAACP works with and seeks to enfranchise.

The risk of such improper disclosure further discourages the community members we serve from

registering to vote.

15. The threat that voters' personal information may be provided to the federal

government will frustrate the work of NAACP. A major goal of our civic engagement work is to

encourage all eligible New York voters to be informed and to exercise their rights as American

citizens by participating in the electoral process. That work could become significantly more

difficult if our members and constituents believe they could be punished, scrutinized, or

investigated simply for registering to vote.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Exhibit B

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

ν.

Case No. 1:25-cv-01338-MAD-PJE

BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF L. JOY WILLIAMS

- I, L. Joy Williams, declare as follows:
- 1. I am a U.S. citizen, over the age of 18, am competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the facts and information set forth in this declaration.
- 2. I am the President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People New York State Conference ("NAACP NYS"), Proposed Intervenor in the above-captioned matter. I have served as President since March 1, 2025. As President of NAACP NYS, I am responsible for overseeing all NAACP NYS's branches, college chapters, and youth councils within New York State, which includes encouraging and assisting in the development of each branch's programs. I have been involved in NAACP NYS for two decades, having first joined the Brooklyn branch as a general member in 2005. Prior to becoming President of NAACP NYS, I held the positions of At-Large Member of the Executive Committee, Second Vice President, First Vice President, and President of the Brooklyn branch.
- 3. NAACP NYS is a non-partisan organization with members and constituents across the state of New York. The mission of NAACP NYS is to ensure political, educational, and economic justice for people of African descent. In furtherance of that mission, NAACP NYS

works to remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes, to educate voters on their constitutional rights, and to take all lawful action to secure the exercise of those rights. NAACP NYS pursues this mission by, among other things, engaging in voter mobilization and registration. NAACP NYS was originally formed in 1936; its efforts at promoting and protecting the franchise stretch back nearly a century.

- 4. NAACP NYS works with over 50 branches, college chapters, and youth councils across New York, which in total represent in excess of 12,000 members across the state.
- 5. NAACP NYS has been a vital component of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP"), one of the most effective and respected civil rights organization in the nation, for nearly all of the NAACP's history. Its mission is to achieve equality, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color. NAACP NYS has played a pivotal role in moving the agenda for freedom and equality forward, and it is committed to the motto of "Never Going Back."
- 6. The NAACP, including NAACP NYS, has a long history of members and constituents facing legal retaliation for their advocacy around civil rights and voting rights. Accordingly, the NAACP, and NAACP NYS, have a long tradition of fighting for and protecting its members, constituents, and the Black community at large from legal retaliation. In one particularly seminal case, the NAACP successfully defended against the disclosure of its membership lists to the State of Alabama on the basis of the right to free association. *See NAACP v. Alabama*, 357 U.S. 449 (1958). NAACP NYS maintains this longstanding tradition of protecting

members and supporters from the unlawful disclosure of their personal information in response to government overreach or invasion of privacy.

- 7. Among its many initiatives, NAACP NYS acutely focuses on voter registration. Ensuring that our members and constituents are registered to vote is crucial to our broader civil rights-focused mission. Consequently, we often work with schools and local youth groups to register young voters. And we likewise partner with organizations supporting previously incarcerated citizens, focusing on the restoration of their voting rights. The NAACP—and the New York State Conference in particular—is able to perform this work effectively because it is viewed as a trusted source of information and support in our community.
- 8. NAACP NYS's voter registration and engagement work is essential, as the communities we serve have long dealt with both intentional and unintentional disenfranchisement at the hands of government officials. In recent years, for instance, we experienced what became known as the "Great Brooklyn Voter Purge" in 2016, where over 100,000 voters were mistakenly removed from Brooklyn voter rolls ahead of the presidential primary. At that time, there was a lot of confusion among voters about whether and how they could vote if they had been mistakenly removed from the voting rolls.
- 9. Similarly, many individuals returning to the community from incarceration face difficulties in restoring their voting rights. Many hear stories about individuals who register to vote prematurely before their voting rights are restored and later face legal liability for what was an innocent mistake. NAACP NYS expends significant time and resources educating these individuals about their rights and ensuring that they are able to register in accordance with the law.
- 10. I understand that the Department of Justice has recently sued New York in order to obtain complete, unreducted voter registration data of all voters in the state, including their driver's

license numbers and partial social security numbers. If the Department of Justice is successful in obtaining this information, it will harm NAACP NYS's mission by risking the sensitive data of its members and constituents, thereby deterring its members from engaging in the political process for fear of government mishandling or weaponization of such data, including through improper removal of voters from the rolls. This disclosure could greatly damage our public standing as an organization that routinely pulls individuals into the political process who would otherwise avoid it.

- 11. My concerns are exacerbated by the fact that the current administration has targeted people it disagrees with, or whose voices it thinks should be silenced, by using any and all information and resources within its possession against such people. This includes using information held by federal agencies against political opponents, like the recent disclosure of a New Jersey gubernatorial candidate's military records. Similarly, many of our community members are aware of, and disturbed by, efforts by the so-called Department of Government Efficiency ("DOGE") to obtain social security data of all Americans, despite questionable data management policies by that agency.
- 12. Thus, I worry that disclosure of New York's voter registration rolls will deter qualified voters in our communities from registering to vote or engaging in the political process, for fear that they will be surrendering their personal information to an administration eager to weaponize such information against opponents. That is particularly so because the Department of Justice's efforts seem driven by a desire to spread false allegations of voter fraud and to punish people who oppose the President's agenda, rather than by any good faith effort at improving the electoral system or voter rolls. The federal government's demand for New York's complete voter registration list is likely to sow distrust of the electoral system, further frustrating our mission,

which requires convincing community members to trust and engage in the political process. That is particularly so among groups of voters most skeptical of the electoral system and worried about improper government scrutiny, including younger voters, naturalized citizen voters, and voters who were formerly incarcerated.

- 13. In addition to my concerns about the Department of Justice misusing personal voter data, I am also concerned about whether they will properly maintain and protect such data. The actions that the Department of Justice has taken to compel the production of sensitive personal information of New York voters do not give me confidence that the Department will respect federal or state privacy laws or be a reliable custodian of the personal information of the communities NAACP NYS works with across the state. As explained, many of our members are disturbed by reports of DOGE negligently storing sensitive Social Security information. As a result, I am extremely concerned about the improper disclosure of the personal information of community members that NAACP NYS works with and seeks to enfranchise. The risk of such improper disclosure further discourages the community members we serve from registering to vote.
- 14. The threat that voters' personal information may be provided to the federal government will frustrate the work of NAACP NYS. A major goal of our civic engagement work is to encourage all New Yorkers to be informed and to exercise their rights as American citizens by participating in the electoral process. That work could become significantly more difficult if our members and constituents believe they could be punished, scrutinized, or investigated simply for registering to vote.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: _	10/1/2025	 	
L. Joy Williams			
I lov William	16		

Exhibit C

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

ν.

Case No. 1:25-cv-01338-MAD-PJE

BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Defendants.

[PROPOSED] ANSWER

Proposed Intervenors the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ("NAACP") and the NAACP New York State Conference ("NAACP NYS") (together, "Proposed Intervenors") answer Plaintiff's Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, Dkt. 1 ("Complaint") as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

The Complaint begins with two unnumbered paragraphs to which no response is required.

To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors incorporate by reference the below paragraphs as their response, deny the allegations, and deny that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief.

- 1. Paragraph 1 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit the United States filed the instant action but otherwise deny that the United States is entitled to any relief.
- 2. Paragraph 2 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors deny that Defendants have failed to comply with the statutes referenced and deny that those statutes require Defendants to provide the information described by Plaintiff.

- 3. Paragraph 3 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations.
- 4. Paragraph 4 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The cited statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 5. Paragraph 5 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that 52 U.S.C. § 20501(b)(3)–(4) contains the quoted text, but deny that 52 U.S.C. § 20507(a)(4)(A)–(B) contains the text as quoted by Plaintiff; the statute instead provides, in relevant part, that: "In the administration of voter registration for elections for Federal office, each State shall . . . (4) conduct a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters by reason of-- (A) the death of the registrant; or (B) a change in the residence of the registrant, in accordance with subsections (b), (c), and (d) " 52 U.S.C. § 20507(a).
- 6. Paragraph 6 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The cited statute otherwise speaks for itself.

7. Paragraph 7 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the United States has filed the instance action but otherwise deny the allegations.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. Paragraph 8 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that this case is brought by the United States as a Plaintiff and that it alleges purported violations of federal law. Proposed Intervenors otherwise deny the allegations.
- 9. Paragraph 9 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendants are located in and conduct election administration in New York.

III. PARTIES

- 10. Paragraph 10 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 10.
- 11. Paragraph 11 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Board of Elections of the State of New York manages elections in New York, which is a state of the United States of America and is subject to certain provisions of the CRA, NVRA, and HAVA.
- 12. Paragraph 12 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors admit that Defendant Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky is the Co-Executive Director of the New York State Board of Elections and that she is sued in her official capacity.

- 13. Paragraph 13 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Raymond Riley III is the Co-Executive Director of the New York State Board of Elections and that he is sued in his official capacity.
- 14. Paragraph 14 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Peter Kosinski is a Commissioner of the New York State Board of Elections and that he is sued in his official capacity.
- 15. Paragraph 15 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Henry Berger is a Commissioner of the New York State Board of Elections and that he is sued in his official capacity.
- 16. Paragraph 16 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Anthony Casale is a Commissioner of the New York State Board of Elections and that he is sued in his official capacity.
- 17. Paragraph 17 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that Defendant Essma Bagnuola is a Commissioner of the New York State Board of Elections and that she is sued in his official capacity.

18. Paragraph 18 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the State of New York is a state of the United States of America and is subject to certain provisions of the CRA, NVRA, and HAVA.

IV. STATUTORY BACKGROUND

A. The Civil Rights Act of 1960

- 19. Paragraph 19 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that 52 U.S.C. § 20701 *et seq.* empowers the Attorney General to request certain records in certain circumstances and subject to legal requirements. Proposed Intervenors deny that the Attorney General is empowered to request each of the records that are the subject of this litigation. Proposed Intervenors further deny that the Attorney General has a sufficient basis or purpose for the records requests at issue in this litigation.
- 20. Paragraph 20 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations.
- 21. Paragraph 21 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself. Proposed Intervenors deny that the statute authorizes the demands that are the subject of this litigation.

B. The National Voter Registration Act

22. Paragraph 22 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.

- 23. Paragraph 23 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 24. Paragraph 24 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself. Proposed Intervenors deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 24.
- 25. Paragraph 25 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute and legislative history contain the quoted text. The statute and legislative history otherwise speak for themselves.
- 26. Paragraph 26 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 27. Paragraph 27 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.

- 28. Paragraph 28 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that 52 U.S.C. § 20507(c) sets forth a process by which a state "may meet the requirements of" of 52 U.S.C. § 20507(a). Section 20507(c) speaks for itself as to that process.
- 29. Paragraph 29 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 30. Paragraph 30 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 31. Paragraph 31 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.

C. The Help America Vote Act

- 32. Paragraph 32 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited report contains the quoted text. The report otherwise speaks for itself.
- 33. Paragraph 33 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors admit that the cited report contains the quoted text. The report otherwise speaks for itself.

- 34. Paragraph 34 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 35. Paragraph 35 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 36. Paragraph 36 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 37. Paragraph 37 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute describes certain elements of a state's voter registration process. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.
- 38. Paragraph 38 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the definition of a "state" outlined in 52 U.S.C. § 21141 includes New York.
- 39. Paragraph 39 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors admit that 52 U.S.C. § 21083(a)(4)(A) references the NVRA. The statute otherwise speaks for itself.

- 40. Paragraph 40 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statute otherwise speaks for itself. Proposed Intervenors deny that HAVA authorizes the relief the Plaintiff seeks and further deny that it precludes enforcement by parties other than the U.S. Attorney General.
- 41. Paragraph 41 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegation.

V. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 42. Proposed Intervenors admit that on June 30, 2025, the United States sent a letter to Co-Executive Directors Stavisky and Riley, but deny that the letter was sent to "Secretary Stavisky." Proposed Intervenors admit that the letter sought information regarding New York's voter registration list. The letter otherwise speaks for itself.
- 43. Proposed Intervenors admit that a letter was sent on June 30 and requested voter registration information. The letter otherwise speaks for itself.
- 44. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 44 and therefore deny them.
- 45. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 45 and therefore deny them.
- 46. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 46 and therefore deny them.

- 47. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 47 and therefore deny them.
- 48. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 48 and therefore deny them.
- 49. Paragraph 49 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations.
- 50. Proposed Intervenors lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations in Paragraph 50 and therefore deny them.
- 51. Paragraph 51 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the Department of Justice is required to comply with the Privacy Act. Proposed Intervenors otherwise deny that the Department of Justice has complied with the Privacy Act or has adopted the necessary practices and procedures to do so.
- 52. Paragraph 52 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors deny that the Civil Rights Division has complied with the Privacy Act.

VI. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

COUNT ONE – CRA, 52 U.S.C. § 20703

- 53. Proposed Intervenors incorporate by reference each of their preceding admissions, denials, and statements as if fully set forth herein.
- 54. Paragraph 54 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 54 because they lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations.

- 55. Proposed Intervenors admit that the Department of Justice sent a letter on June 30, 2025 and admit that the Department of Justice asked for the state to produce its voter registration list, but deny that such refusal violates any federal or state law. Proposed Intervenors otherwise deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 55 because they lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations.
- 56. Proposed Intervenors admit that the State has not produced the state's voter registration list in the manner requested by the Department of Justice but denies that such refusal violates any federal or state law.
 - 57. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 57.

<u>COUNT TWO – NVRA, 52 U.S.C. § 20507(I)</u>

- 58. Proposed Intervenors incorporate by reference each of their preceding admissions, denials, and statements as if fully set forth herein.
- 59. Proposed Intervenors admit that the Department of Justice sent a letter on June 30, 2025 and admit that the Department of Justice asked for the state to produce its voter registration list, but deny that such refusal violates any federal or state law. Proposed Intervenors otherwise deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 59 because they lack sufficient knowledge to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations.
- 60. Proposed Intervenors admit that New York has not produced the state's voter registration list in the manner requested by the Department of Justice but denies that such refusal violates any federal or state law.
- 61. Paragraph 61 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed

Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statutes otherwise speak for themselves. To the extent Paragraph 61 alleges that New York has violated the NVRA, Proposed Intervenors deny the allegation.

- 62. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 62.
- 63. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 63.
- 64. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 64.

COUNT THREE - HAVA, 52 U.S.C. § 21083

- 65. Proposed Intervenors incorporate by reference each of their preceding admissions, denials, and statements as if fully set forth herein.
 - 66. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 66.
 - 67. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 67.
- 68. Paragraph 68 contains legal contentions, characterizations, conclusions, and opinions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Proposed Intervenors admit that the cited statute contains the quoted text. The statutes otherwise speak for themselves. Proposed Intervenors otherwise deny the allegations in Paragraph 68.
 - 69. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 69.
 - 70. Proposed Intervenors deny the allegations in Paragraph 70.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

The Complaint next includes a Prayer for Relief, including sub-paragraphs (A)–(F), demanding equitable and declaratory relief. Proposed Intervenors deny that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief in this action.

GENERAL DENIAL

Proposed Intervenors deny every allegation in Plaintiff's Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief that is not expressly admitted herein.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 1. Plaintiff has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 2. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by equity, including on the basis of laches and unclean hands.
 - 3. Plaintiff has failed to establish entitlement to injunctive relief.
- 4. The relief sought by Plaintiff is inconsistent with the U.S. Constitution and federal law.
 - 5. Plaintiff lacks authority to bring a cause of action.
- 6. New York law, N.Y. Pub. Off. Law § 96, grants Proposed Intervenors the right to keep their highly sensitive personal information confidential, and preservation of those state rights does not conflict with or otherwise violate federal law.

PROPOSED INTERVENORS' PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, having fully answered Plaintiff's Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, Proposed Intervenors pray for judgment as follows:

- A. That the Court dismiss the Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief.
- B. That judgment be entered in favor of Defendants and Proposed Intervenors and against Plaintiff on Plaintiff's Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief and that Plaintiff takes nothing thereby;
- C. That Proposed Intervenors be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees and costs under any applicable statute or equitable doctrine; and
 - D. For such other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Andrew G. Celli, Jr.

Andrew G. Celli, Jr. (Bar No. 105255) Katherine Rosenfeld (Bar No. 511795) Daniel M. Eisenberg (Bar No. 706811) EMERY CELLI BRINCKERHOFF ABADY WARD & MAAZEL LLP One Rockefeller Plaza, 8th Floor

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Dated: October 1, 2025

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Christopher D. Dodge*
Tina Meng Morrison*
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Counsel for Proposed Intervenors

^{*} Application pro hac vice and Motion for Limited Admission forthcoming