# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Louis Agre et al.,

Plaintiffs, : Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-4392

:

**V.** 

Thomas W. Wolf et al.,

Defendants.

# LEGISLATIVE DEFENDANTS' SUPPLEMENT TO THEIR MOTION TO DISMISS THE AMENDED COMPLAINT

Legislative Defendants submit this Supplement to their Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint filed on November 22, 2017 (ECF No. 108). On November 7, 2017, the Court granted Plaintiffs "leave to amend their Complaint to add one voter from each Congressional district in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, also by November 17, 2017." (ECF No. 74). On November 17, 2017, Plaintiffs filed their Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 88). Plaintiff Edwin Gragert is the only Plaintiff identified in the Amended Complaint who allegedly lives in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. (ECF No. 88).

On November 22, 2017, the Court entered an Order requiring every Plaintiff to appear for a deposition to testify regarding, among other things, the "harm" they have suffered as a result of the 2011 Plan. (ECF 112). That day, Legislative Defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 108).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Court's Order implicitly recognized that, to have standing to challenge Pennsylvania's 2011 Congressional District Map (the "2011 Plan") on a statewide basis, Plaintiffs would need to allege that a Plaintiff living in every Congressional District suffered harm as a result of the enactment of the 2011 Plan. (ECF No. 83 at 4).

On November 24, 2017, Plaintiffs for the first time disclosed to Legislative Defendants that Mr. Gragert will be traveling abroad at least until December 8, 2017 and that he will only be available for a deposition via Skype from Argentina. But, under the Hague Convention, Argentina does not allow voluntary depositions to take place in Argentinian territory absent permission. *See* https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legalconsiderations/judicial/country/argentina.html ("The taking of voluntary depositions of willing witnesses outside of making a formal request under the Hague Evidence Convention is not permitted in Argentina, regardless of the nationality of the witness.") (emphasis added). Because there is insufficient time for any party to make a formal request to depose Mr. Gragert in Argentina, a deposition of Mr. Gragert would necessarily violate international and Argentinian law.

Mr. Gragert is therefore not be available for his Court-Ordered deposition.<sup>2</sup> As such, the Amended Complaint should be dismissed as to Mr. Gragert for lack of standing because he cannot demonstrate that he has suffered individualized harm, or otherwise provide his Court-Ordered testimony. And, because Mr. Gragert is the only Plaintiff who lives in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Plaintiffs do not have standing to challenge the 2011 Plan on a statewide basis. For this reason, and the other reasons set forth in the Motion to be Dismiss (ECF No. 108), Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint should be dismissed.

<sup>2</sup> Given Mr. Gragert's anticipated return date, it is also unlikely that he will be available for trial.

Dated: November 27, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

#### BLANK ROME LLP

#### /s/ Brian S. Paszamant

BRIAN S. PASZAMANT JASON A. SNYDERMAN JOHN P. WIXTED One Logan Square

130 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Phone: 215-569-5791 Facsimile: 215-832-5791

Email: Paszamant@blankrome.com

<u>Snyderman@blankrome.com</u> JWixted@blankrome.com

Attorneys for Legislative Defendant Senator Joseph B. Scarnati, III

# HOLTZMAN VOGEL JOSEFIAK TORCHINSKY PLLC

### /s/ Jason Torchinsky

JASON TORCHINSKY (admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) SHAWN SHEEHY (admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) 45 North Hill Drive, Suite 100

Warrenton, Virginia 20186

Phone: 540-341-8808 Facsimile: 540-341-8809 Email: <u>JTorchinsky@hvjt.law</u>

ssheehy@hvjt.law

Attorneys for Legislative Defendants Senator Joseph B. Scarnati, III and Representative Michael C. Turzai

# CIPRIANI & WERNER PC

# /s/ Kathleen Gallagher

KATHLEEN GALLAGHER CAROLYN BATZ MCGEE 650 Washington Road, Suite 700 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15228

Phone: 412-563-4978

Email: KGallagher@c-wlaw.com

CMcgee@c-wlaw.com

Attorneys for Legislative Defendant Representative Michael C. Turzai

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that on November 27, 2017, the foregoing was served upon the following Counsel of Record via the Court's ECF system:

Alice W. Ballard, Esquire Law Office of Alice W. Ballard, PC 123 S. Broad Street, Suite 2135 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19109 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Lisa A. Mathewson, Esquire
The Law Offices of Lisa A. Mathewson LLC
123 S. Broad Street, Suite 810
Philadelphia, PA 19109
Attorney for Plaintiffs

Michael Persoon, Esquire Sean Morales-Doyle, Esquire Thomas H. Geoghegan, Esquire Despres Schwartz & Geoghegan, Ltd. 77 W. Washington Street, Suite 711 Chicago, Illinois 60602 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Brian A. Gordon, Esquire Gordon & Ashworth PC One Belmont Avenue, Suite 519 Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Virginia L. Hardwick, Esquire Hardwick Benfer, LLC 179 North Broad Street Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Garen Meguerian, Esquire 201 Industrial Boulevard, Suite 201 Paoli, Pennsylvania 19301 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Timothy E. Gates, Esquire Pennsylvania Department of State Office of Chief Counsel 306 North Office Building Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120 Attorneys for Defendant, Pedro Cortes, Secretary of State of Pennsylvania

> Ashton R. Lattimore, Esquire Mark A. Aronchick, Esquire Claudia DePalma, Esquire Michele D. Hangley, Esquire Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin One Logan Square, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Attorneys for Defendants, Thomas W. Wolf, Governor of Pennsylvania; Pedro A. Cortés, Secretary of State of Pennsylvania; and Jonathan M. Marks, Commissioner for the Bureau of Commissions, Elections, and Legislation, in their official capacities

Gregory George Schwab, Esquire Governor's Office of General Counsel 333 Market Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101 Attorneys for Defendant, Governor Thomas Wolf

Dated: November 27, 2017 /s/ Brian S. Paszamant

BRIAN S. PASZAMANT