IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS

LAUREN COWLES, individually and on behalf of ARKANSANS FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT, a ballot question committee,

Petitioners

v.

No. CV-24-455

JOHN THURSTON, in his official capacity

as Secretary of State

Respondent

Notice of Compliance with Order

In compliance with the Court's July 23, 2024, Order, Respondent John

Thurston submits the attached affidavit.

Respectfully submitted,

TIM GRIFFIN Arkansas Attorney General NICHOLAS J. BRONNI (2016097) Solicitor General DYLAN L. JACOBS (2016167) Deputy Solicitor General ASHER STEINBERG (2019058) Senior Assistant Solicitor General OFFICE OF THE ARKANSAS ATTORNEY GENERAL 323 Center Street, Suite 200 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Counsel for Respondent John Thurston

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on July 25, 2024, I electronically filed this document with the Clerk of Court using the eFlex electronic-filing system, which will serve all counsel of record.

> <u>/s/ Nicholas J. Bronni</u> Nicholas J. Bronni

IN THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT

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PETITIONERS

v. No. CV-24-455

JOHN THURSTON, in his official capacity as Arkansas Secretary of State

RESPONDENT

Comes Leslie Bellamy, and makes the following statements under oath:

- 1. I am over the age of 18 and am competent to make this affidavit.
- 2. I am the Director of Elections for the Arkansas Secretary of State.
- 3. I am providing this affidavit in response to the Formal Order issued by the Arkansas Supreme Court on July 23, 2024.
- 4. Pursuant to the Court's order, I oversaw the initial count of signatures collected by volunteer canvassers under Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-126(a).
- 5. Pursuant to the Court's order, no volunteer signatures were excluded from that count under Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-126(b)-(c), or any other provision.
- 6. I have determined that volunteer canvassers collected 87,675 signatures.
- 7. I have also determined that the sponsor submitted an additional 912 signatures on petition parts that do not indicate whether the canvasser was volunteer or paid. Therefore, I was unable to determine whether those 912 signatures should be included in the initial count.

8. If the additional 912 signatures were collected by volunteer canvassers, the total number of signatures collected by volunteers would be 88,587.

LESLIE BELLAMY

LESLIE BELLAMY DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS ARKANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF ARKANSAS

On this $25^{\frac{14}{2}}$ day of 324, before me, a Notary Public, duly commissioned, appearing in person the within named <u>locke Bellary</u> to me personally known who stated and acknowledged that she has so signed, executed and delivered the foregoing instrument for the consideration, uses, and purposes, therein mentioned and set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal this

 25^{\pm} day of 51_{y} , 2024.

My Commission Expires:

11-14-33

	JOSH BRIDGES
	WHITE COUNTY
	NOTARY PUBLIC - ARKANSAS
(SEAL)	My Commission Expires Nov. 14, 2033
(SEAL)	Commission No. 12396516
CZ ZZ	
Notary Public	
Notary Fublic	