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11 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
12 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

14 **PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF**
15 **CALIFORNIA EX REL. XAVIER**
16 **BECCERRA, ATTORNEY GENERAL,**

Petitioner,

17
18 v.

19 **CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY;**
20 **FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN**
21 **PARTY; REPUBLICAN PARTY OF**
ORANGE COUNTY; AND REPUBLICAN
PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY,

22 Respondents.
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Case No.

**PETITION TO ENFORCE
INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

[Gov. Code, §§ 11180 et seq.]

EXEMPT FROM FILING FEES
PER GOV. CODE § 6103

Petitioners, the People of the State of California, ex rel. Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, allege as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action to enforce compliance with a set of Investigative Interrogatories (the Interrogatories) issued by the Attorney General’s Office to the California Republican Party, the Fresno County Republican Party, the Republican Party of Orange County, and the Republican Party of Los Angeles County (collectively, Respondents). The Interrogatories were issued in connection with the Attorney General’s ongoing investigation into ballot collection and election law compliance.

2. Only county election officials have the authority to designate the location, hours of operation, and number of drop boxes in their respective counties, as well as the responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations that guarantee the security and chain of custody of vote-by-mail ballots. California Elections Code section 3025(a)(1) specifically defines a “vote-by-mail ballot drop box” as “a secure receptacle *established by a county or city and county elections official* whereby a voted vote-by-mail ballot may be returned to the elections official from whom it was obtained.”¹ Additionally, Elections Code section 3025(a)(2) describes a “vote-by-mail ballot drop-off location” as “a location consisting of a secured vote by mail ballot drop box at which a voted vote by mail ballot may be returned to the elections official from whom it was obtained.” California Elections Code section 3025(b) mandates that the Secretary of State establish guidelines for vote-by-mail ball drop boxes, and the regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State’s office pursuant to this section provide extensive requirements for the design, use, and security of vote-by-mail ballot drop boxes.²

3. Elections Code sections 3011(a)(9)-(11) and 3017 govern ballot collection and return by a person other than the voter. Elections Code section 3017 provides that a “vote by mail voter who is unable to return the ballot may designate another person to return the ballot.”³ Both the

¹ Elec. Code, § 3025(a)(1) (emphasis added).

² See generally Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, §§ 20130–20138.

³ Elec. Code, § 3017 (emphasis added).

1 statutory language and the legislative history indicate that the statute only permits natural persons
2 to be designated to return vote-by-mail ballots.⁴ Indeed, the Legislature stated that the “practical
3 effect of this bill is that a VBM voter may designate *any person such as a co-worker, friend,*
4 *neighbor, or even a campaign worker* to drop off his or her VBM ballot.”⁵ Pursuant to Elections
5 Code section 3011(a)(11), if a person is “unable to return” their vote-by-mail ballot, a person to
6 whom a voter entrusts their vote-by-mail ballot to return to the county elections official must
7 include their signature on the return vote-by-mail envelope as a person authorized to return the
8 ballot. That individual is also required to provide their name and relationship to the voter.⁶

9 4. The California Republican Party, working directly with Republican county
10 committees throughout the State and various churches and businesses, set up and advertised its
11 own non-official and unauthorized vote-by-mail “ballot drop boxes” at numerous locations
12 throughout the State, sometimes even advertising them as “official” ballot drop boxes.

13 5. These unauthorized and non-official vote-by-mail drop boxes caused confusion
14 among voters, prompted complaints from county elections officials alarmed about their use, and
15 raised serious concerns about whether the appropriate chain of custody was being observed for
16 ballots deposited in them in order to protect the security and integrity of the voting process and
17 ensure that votes are timely delivered to county election officials.

18 6. Moreover, the manner in which Respondents used, promoted, and advertised their
19 unauthorized, non-official ballot drop boxes did not comply with State law governing ballot
20 collection activities, which requires that voters designate and authorize a specific person to return
21 their ballot and that said person provide their name, signature, and relationship to the voter on the
22 ballot envelope.⁷

23
24 ⁴ See, e.g., Report of Assembly Comm. on Elections and Redistricting (Apr. 27, 2016)
25 (stating that bill “[r]epeals provisions of law that prohibit a VBM voter’s ballot from being
26 returned by a paid or volunteer worker of . . . any other group or organization at whose behest *the*
27 *individual designated to return the ballot* is performing a service”) (emphasis added).

28 ⁵ *Id.* See also *id.* (observing that similar laws in other states “allow[] for the friend who
happens to be driving by the ballot drop-off location, or the co-worker who is heading to the polls
on election day, to assist in making sure each and every vote counts.”).

⁶ Elec. Code, § 3011(a)(9)-(11).

⁷ *Id.*

1 7. To stop the unlawful and misleading use of these unofficial ballot drop boxes, the
2 California Secretary of State, Alex Padilla, and the Attorney General issued a cease and desist
3 letter (Cease and Desist Letter) to Respondents on October 12, 2020, asking that they stop the
4 coordination, use, and/or promotion of unauthorized and non-official drop boxes. The letter
5 further requested that the California Republican Party surrender any ballots received through the
6 non-official drop boxes to the appropriate county elections official; provide the names, addresses,
7 and birth date information of those voters who dropped their ballots so that voters could be
8 contacted to provide them with information about their options for tracking whether their vote
9 was properly delivered; and provide the number and location of each unofficial and unauthorized
10 drop box that was deployed so that the Attorney General and Secretary of State could ensure that
11 any ballot collection activity at these sites has either ceased or is in compliance with State law.

12 8. In response, Respondents removed a number of the unauthorized ballot drop boxes
13 and promised to take steps to ensure that any future ballot collection activity by Respondents
14 would involve a person on-site to collect ballots and provide voters with the appropriate notice
15 and opportunity to designate that individual to return their ballot, and that the individual who
16 returned said ballots would write their name and signature on the ballot envelope. However,
17 Respondents refused to provide the names, addresses, and birth date information of those voters
18 who previously dropped their ballots so that those voters could be contacted to provide them with
19 information about their options for tracking whether their vote was properly delivered.
20 Respondents also refused to provide the number and location of each unofficial and unauthorized
21 drop box that was deployed so that the Secretary of State and Attorney General could ensure that
22 any ballot collection activity that may still be occurring at those sites comply with State law.

23 9. The Attorney General is currently investigating ballot collection and election law
24 compliance and served Interrogatories requesting from Respondents the same information sought
25 in the Cease and Desist Letter, namely, that Respondents provide (a) the name, address, and birth
26 date of all individuals that deposited a vote by mail ballot in any of Respondents' non-official
27 drop boxes; (b) the number of non-official ballot drop boxes deployed by Respondents; and (c)
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1 the locations of all non-official drop boxes deployed by Respondents, including where said drop
2 boxes have been removed and where they are still deployed.

3 10. The Attorney General requested these specific items as part of his investigation to
4 ensure that Respondents have brought their continuing ballot collection efforts into compliance
5 with State elections laws and to ensure that all ballots are counted, include those of any voter who
6 deposited a ballot into the previously unlawfully-operated ballot drop boxes deployed by
7 Respondents.

8 11. Because the election date is quickly approaching, it is critical that the State ensure
9 that any ballot that was deposited into a drop box is able to be confirmed as having reached a
10 county elections official for counting, and because Respondents were previously on notice of
11 similar requests from the Cease and Desist Letter, the Attorney General's Interrogatories
12 requested that responsive information be provided by close of business on Monday, October 19,
13 2020.

14 12. In response, Respondents have provided none of the requested information and have
15 instead filed a litany of objections, none of which excuse their non-compliance.

16 13. Accordingly, the People of the State of California, acting through Attorney General
17 Xavier Becerra, petition this Court pursuant to section 11188 of the Government Code to enforce
18 compliance with the Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories.

19 THE PARTIES

20 14. Xavier Becerra is the Attorney General of the State of California. He brings this
21 action in his official capacity on behalf of the People of the State of California. The Attorney
22 General is the chief law officer of the state and has the duty to see that the State's laws are
23 uniformly and adequately enforced for the protection of public rights and interests. In order to
24 carry out these duties effectively, California law gives the Attorney General broad investigative
25 powers. Specifically, Government Code sections 11180 et seq. grant the Attorney General, as
26 head of the Department of Justice, the authority to issue subpoenas and promulgate
27 interrogatories. These investigative powers are not dependent on the initiation of a civil lawsuit
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1 or an administrative proceeding. If a party refuses to comply with a subpoena, the Attorney
2 General may petition the Superior Court for enforcement.⁸

3 15. Respondent California Republican Party is a political party in California with its
4 principal place of business located at 1001 K Street, 4th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814.

5 16. Respondent Fresno County Republican Party is a political party with its principal
6 place of business located at 770 E Shaw Ave., Suite 121, Fresno, CA 93710.

7 17. Respondent Republican Party of Orange County is a political party with its principal
8 place of business located at 1422 Edinger Ave, Suite 110, Tustin, CA 92780.

9 18. Respondent Los Angeles County Republican Party is a political party with its
10 principal place of business located at 16133 Ventura Blvd., #560, Encino, CA 91436.

11 JURISDICTION AND VENUE

12 13. Jurisdiction and venue are proper in the Superior Court of the State of California in
13 the City and County of Sacramento under Government Code section 11186. The Attorney General
14 primarily conducts his investigation into ballot collection and election law compliance, including
15 his investigation of the California Republican Party, in the City and County of Sacramento, with
16 some work performed in other parts of the State. The Investigative Interrogatories issued to
17 Respondents directed them to serve responses in the City and County of Sacramento.

18 BACKGROUND

19 14. The California Legislature has recognized that vote-by-mail voting has become the
20 means by which most Californians exercise their right to vote.⁹ In light of the ongoing COVID-19
21 pandemic, the availability and reliability of secure methods for vote-by-mail and ballot drop-off is
22 of paramount importance.

23 15. As of October 5, 2020, pursuant to Elections Code section 3000.5(a), county election
24 officials throughout the State were required to have begun mailing ballots for the upcoming
25 November 3, 2020 election to all California voters registered at that time.

26
27 ⁸ Gov. Code, § 11187.

28 ⁹ See Historical and Statutory Notes, West's Ann. Cal. Elec. Code § 3000.5.

1 16. Also on October 5, 2020, many county election authorities throughout the State—
2 including, but not limited to, Fresno County, Orange County, Los Angeles County, and Stanislaus
3 County—began offering vote-by-mail ballot drop boxes at authorized locations throughout their
4 respective counties for voters to securely drop off their completed ballots.¹⁰

5 17. In or around the week of October 5, 2020, in a practice well-documented by multiple
6 news reports, Respondents began using unauthorized, non-official vote-by-mail ballot drop boxes
7 at local political party offices, candidate headquarters, churches, gun retailers, and other locations
8 throughout the State.

9 18. For example, in or around the week of October 5, 2020, the Chairman of Respondent
10 Fresno County Republican Party, Fred Vanderhoof, delivered a dozen unofficial drop boxes to
11 twelve different locations in Fresno County. One of the twelve locations was a smog emissions
12 check business in Clovis, California.¹¹ At this location, an unsecured cardboard box was placed
13 behind the front desk with an attached sign reading “Authorized Secure Ballot Drop.”¹² The
14 owner of the shop estimated that approximately 25 voters dropped off their ballots at this location.

15 19. Following Mr. Vanderhoof’s delivery of the drop boxes around Fresno County, the
16 website of Respondent Fresno County Republican Party advertised the twelve locations—which
17 included their party headquarters at 770 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, CA 93710—prefaced with the
18 following statement:

19 CONSERVATIVE VOTER ALERT! President Trump is very concerned about the
20 lack of security with mail in ballots. Don’t take a chance that your vote will not be
21 counted. Once your ballot arrives in the mail, mark your ballot completely and then
22

23 ¹⁰ See Fresno County Ballot Drop Box Locations, available at
24 <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=50314>; Orange County Ballot Drop Box
25 Locations, available at [https://www.ocvote.com/voting/voting-and-dropoff-locations-by-](https://www.ocvote.com/voting/voting-and-dropoff-locations-by-election/ballot-drop-box-locations-for-the-2020-presidential-general-election)
26 [election/ballot-drop-box-locations-for-the-2020-presidential-general-election](https://www.ocvote.com/voting/voting-and-dropoff-locations-by-election/ballot-drop-box-locations-for-the-2020-presidential-general-election); Los Angeles
County Ballot Drop Off, available at [https://www.lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voting-](https://www.lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voting-options/vote-by-mail/vbm-ballot-drop-off)
options/vote-by-mail/vbm-ballot-drop-off; Stanislaus County Ballot Drop Box Locations,
available at <https://www.stanvote.com/pdf/2020GeneralElectionDropBoxLocations.pdf>.

27 ¹¹ See D. Taub, *Nunes to State on Ballot Box Battle: ‘Screw You’* (Oct. 13, 2020) GV
Wire, available at <https://gvwire.com/2020/10/13/nunes-to-state-on-ballot-box-battle-screw-you/>.

28 ¹² *Id.*

1 walk it in, as soon as possible, to one of the secure locations listed below. Make
2 sure your vote counts!!¹³

3 20. On October 9, 2020, a Regional Field Director for Respondent California Republican
4 Party posted a photo to Twitter showing him holding a ballot in front of a non-official,
5 unauthorized drop box labeled “OFFICIAL BALLOT DROP OFF BOX” and a caption stating
6 “DM [direct message] me for convenient locations to drop your ballot off at!”¹⁴

7 21. On October 11, 2020, the Secretary of State published a memorandum in response to
8 “unauthorized, non-official ballot drop boxes being used or having been proposed to be used at
9 local political party offices, candidate headquarters, and churches throughout the state.”¹⁵ The
10 memorandum explained that State law forbids the use of ballot drop boxes that are unauthorized
11 by the appropriate county election officials and that do not comply with State law regarding ballot
12 collection activities.

13 22. To stop the unlawful and misleading use of these unofficial ballot drop boxes, the
14 Secretary of State and the Attorney General issued a cease and desist letter to Respondents on
15 October 12, 2020 (Cease and Desist Letter), identifying several reported examples of the use and
16 advertisement of unauthorized and non-official drop boxes and demanding that Respondents stop
17 the coordination, use, and/or promotion of said drop boxes. The letter further requested that the
18 California Republican Party surrender any ballots received through the non-official drop boxes to
19 the appropriate county elections official; provide the names, addresses, and birth date information
20 of those voters who dropped their ballots so that voters could be contacted to provide them with
21 information about their options for tracking whether their vote was properly delivered; and provide
22 the total number and location of each unofficial and unauthorized drop box that was deployed.

23 ¹³ The Fresno County Republican Party subsequently removed the list from its website,
24 but a snapshot of the page as of October 12, 2020 remains archived online. See
25 [https://web.archive.org/web/20201012034811/https://www.fresnogop.org/ballot-collection-box-](https://web.archive.org/web/20201012034811/https://www.fresnogop.org/ballot-collection-box-locations/)
26 [locations/](https://web.archive.org/web/20201012034811/https://www.fresnogop.org/ballot-collection-box-locations/).

27 ¹⁴ See K. Shepherd, *California GOP Installed Unofficial Ballot Drop-Off Boxes. State*
28 *Officials Say They’re Illegal* (Oct. 12, 2020) Washington Post, available at
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/10/12/california-illegal-ballot-boxes/>.

¹⁵ See Memorandum to All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters from Jana M. Lean, Chief,
Elections Division, Re “General Election: Unauthorized Ballot Drop Boxes”, issued October 11,
2020, available at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/ccrov/pdf/2020/october/20240jl.pdf>.

1 23. In response to the Cease and Desist Letter, Respondents stated that they would
2 remove the “official” language from any ballot drop box and that its initial inclusion was in error.
3 Respondents also represented that they had removed a number of the ballot boxes and turned over
4 all ballots to the appropriate authorities. Counsel for Respondents also promised to introduce a
5 protocol to ensure that future ballot collection activity at “any and all [ballot] receptacles placed in
6 local party offices” would involve a person on-site monitoring the boxes to assist in ballot
7 collection and provide voters with the appropriate notice and opportunity to designate a specific
8 individual to return their ballot, and that the individual who returned said ballots would write their
9 name and signature on the ballot envelope. However, Respondents refused to provide the names,
10 addresses, and birth date information of those voters who dropped their ballots before this new
11 protocol so that those voters could be contacted and provided information about their options for
12 tracking whether their vote was properly delivered.

13 24. Despite the new protocol shared by counsel for Respondents, Respondents did not
14 demonstrate how they will ensure that third-party businesses and churches supplied with their
15 ballot drop boxes will comply with their proposed labels, receipts, and instructions, thus making it
16 vitally important that the Secretary of State and Attorney General are aware of the locations where
17 third parties may be using drop boxes supplied by Respondents. Moreover, Respondents refused
18 to provide the number and location of each unofficial and unauthorized drop box that was
19 deployed so that the Secretary of State and Attorney General are able to ensure that any ballot
20 collection activity that may still be occurring at those sites comports with State law.

21 25. In order to ensure that State election laws are being followed, the Attorney General is
22 investigating ballot collection and election law compliance, including persons or entities involved
23 directly or indirectly in the collection of vote by mail ballots and the operation of ballot drop
24 boxes.

25 26. On October 16, 2020, the Attorney General served Investigative Interrogatories
26 requesting the same information originally sought in the Cease and Desist Letter, namely, that
27 Respondents provide (a) the name, address, and birth date of all individuals that deposited a vote
28 by mail ballot in any of Respondents’ non-official drop boxes; (b) the number of non-official drop

1 boxes deployed by Respondents; and (c) the locations of all non-official drop boxes deployed by
2 Respondents, including where said drop boxes have been removed and where they are still
3 deployed. True and correct copies of the Interrogatories and proof of service are attached hereto
4 as **Exhibit A**. Also on October 16, 2020, the Attorney General served Investigatory Subpoenas to
5 Respondents seeking the production of documents related to these interrogatories and
6 Respondents' ballot collection activities.

7 27. The Attorney General requested these specific items as part of his investigation to
8 ensure that he has the necessary information to confirm that Respondents—and any third parties
9 with whom they may be coordinating—have brought their continuing ballot collection efforts into
10 compliance with State elections laws, and to ensure that any voter who wishes to cast a ballot in
11 the November 2020 general election has their ballot counted.

12 28. In response, Respondents have lodged a series of objections to the Interrogatories,
13 including challenges to, among other things, purported vagueness and overbreadth, the amount of
14 time for Respondents to respond, concerns about maintaining the “secrecy of the ballot” cast by
15 voters, the Attorney General’s authority to issue the Interrogatories, and the relationship between
16 the Attorney General’s investigation and potential violations of law. True and correct copies of
17 Respondents’ objections are attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. None of these objections have merit
18 and they serve only as an attempt to hinder and delay the Attorney General’s work of ensuring that
19 the currently ongoing election process is conducted fairly and without violation of State law.

20 29. For example, Respondents’ objections that these Interrogatories “seek[] to violate the
21 secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who provided their VBM ballot” to Respondents is
22 without foundation. Respondents need not be concerned about the secrecy and confidentiality of
23 any information they provide, as the Attorney General’s Office will treat all information produced
24 pursuant to these Interrogatories as confidential under Section 11183, which requires that, with
25 certain limited exceptions, “an officer shall not divulge any information or evidence acquired by
26 the officer from the interrogatory answers or subpoenaed private books, documents, papers, or
27 other items . . . in respect to the confidential or private transactions, property or business of any
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1 person.” Failure to comply with this section is criminally punishable and disqualifies the
2 offending state officer “from acting in any official capacity in the department.” (*Id.*)

3 30. Similarly, Respondents’ objections that these Interrogatories were not “regularly
4 promulgated” under the relevant Government Code sections, that the Attorney General is without
5 authority to investigate non-criminal activities, or that there is no law, violation of law, or
6 threatened violation of law at issue are without merit. Under the California Constitution, the
7 Attorney General is the chief law officer of the state and has the duty to see that the State’s laws
8 are uniformly and adequately enforced for the protection of public rights and interests.¹⁶ The
9 Attorney General issued the Cease and Desist Letter in conjunction with the Secretary of State,
10 who is the chief elections officer of the State, and State law anticipates that the Attorney General
11 and Secretary of State will work together to see that the State’s elections laws are enforced.¹⁷
12 Moreover, the Attorney General is not limited to investigating criminal activities, but it instead
13 expressly authorized by Government Code section 11180 to make investigations and to prosecute
14 actions concerning “[a]ll matters relating to the business activities and subjects under the
15 jurisdiction of the department,” “[v]iolations of any law,” and “[s]uch other matters as may be
16 provided by law.” These provisions give the Attorney General ample authority to issue
17 investigative subpoenas and interrogatories to investigate possible unlawful activities or simply to
18 assure him that the law is not being violated.¹⁸ Here, the Attorney General has been repeatedly
19 presented with conduct and statements that call into question Respondents’ compliance with State
20 election laws and the Attorney General therefore not only has a right but a duty to conduct the
21 investigation that led to the issuance of these Interrogatories.

22 31. Moreover, Respondents’ objections about the “short response time” requested by the
23 Attorney General is belied by Respondents themselves acknowledging that now is a “critical time”
24 with “the General election just 14 days away.” Under the circumstances, it is necessary that the
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26 ¹⁶ Cal. Const., art. V, § 13.

27 ¹⁷ See Gov. Code, § 12172.5(b) (“If, at any time, the Secretary of State concludes that
state election laws are not being enforced, the Secretary of State shall call the violation to the
attention of the district attorney of the county or to the Attorney General.”).

28 ¹⁸ See *People v. West Coast Shows, Inc.* (1970) 10 Cal.App.3d 462, 464-65.

1 Attorney General have the information sought by the Interrogatories as quickly as possible to
2 determine whether the Attorney General, Secretary of State, or county elections officials need to
3 contact any attempted voter to ensure that ballots deposited in the drop boxes Respondents had
4 been unlawfully operating have their votes counted. It is also necessary to determine, without
5 additional delay, whether Respondents and others are acting in compliance with State law so the
6 Attorney General, Secretary of State, or county elections officials can take appropriate action if
7 they are not.

8 32. Given that voting in the State of California is already occurring and that the official
9 election date is now only two weeks away, a court order enforcing the Attorney General's
10 investigative procedures is warranted.

11 **THIS COURT'S AUTHORITY TO ORDER COMPLIANCE**

12 33. Government Code section 11187 provides that if a witness has failed to produce
13 materials called for by an investigative subpoena, the head of the department issuing the subpoena
14 may petition the Superior Court for an order compelling compliance. That section further
15 provides that a proceeding, such as this one, brought by the Attorney General or other appropriate
16 official, shall be the sole vehicle for determining the validity of any objections to the subpoena.

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1 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

2 Pursuant to Government Code sections 11186-11188, the Attorney General prays that this
3 Court:

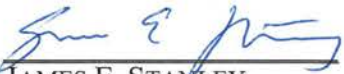
4 1. Issue an order directing Respondent to appear before this Court and to show cause
5 why each has refused to comply with the Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories;

6 2. Upon Respondents' failure to show cause; enter an order directing Respondents to
7 provide full responses to the Interrogatories sufficiently in advance of the November 2, 2020
8 election so as to allow the Attorney General to ensure that all attempted voters are able to obtain
9 confirmation that their ballots were deposited with county election officials, and if not, to ensure
10 that they have an opportunity to cast a ballot; and

11 3. Grant all other relief to which the People are legally entitled.

12 Dated: October 20, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

13
14 XAVIER BECERRA
15 Attorney General of California
16 MICHAEL L. NEWMAN
17 Senior Assistant Attorneys General
18 SARAH E. BELTON
19 SUSAN SLAGER
20 Supervising Deputy Attorneys General
21 LAURA FAER
22 KATHERINE LEHE
23 VILMA PALMA-SOLANA
24 Deputy Attorneys General
25 
26 JAMES E. STANLEY
27 Deputy Attorney General
28

*Attorneys for the People of the State of
California*

Exhibit A !

James Stanley

From: James Stanley
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 2:46 PM
To: 'Thomas Hiltachk'; Laura Faer; Ashlee N. Titus
Cc: Susan Slager; Anthony OBrien; Anthony Hakl; Sarah Belton; Vilma Palma-Solana; Katherine Lehe; Thomas Patterson; Michael L. Newman
Subject: RE: Investigative Subpoena and Interrogatories
Attachments: AGO-CAGOP Subpoena 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-CAGOP Interrogatories 2020.10.16.pdf

Mr. Hiltachk:

Thank you for agreeing to accept service. Please find attached an investigative subpoena and investigative interrogatories for the California Republican Party, served via this email. Please confirm receipt. Please also let us know if you are authorized to accept service on behalf of the Fresno and/or Orange County Republican Committees.

We are available to discuss these documents at any time; please feel free to contact us via email or phone.

Best regards,
Jim Stanley

James E. Stanley
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Rights Enforcement Section
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 210-6475
james.stanley@doj.ca.gov

From: Thomas Hiltachk <tomh@bmhlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 10:20 AM
To: Laura Faer <Laura.Faer@doj.ca.gov>; Ashlee N. Titus <atitus@bmhlaw.com>
Cc: Susan Slager <Susan.Slager@doj.ca.gov>; James Stanley <James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony OBrien <Anthony.OBrien@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony Hakl <Anthony.Hakl@doj.ca.gov>; Sarah Belton <Sarah.Belton@doj.ca.gov>; Vilma Palma-Solana <Vilma.Solana@doj.ca.gov>; Katherine Lehe <Katherine.Lehe@doj.ca.gov>; Thomas Patterson <Thomas.Patterson@doj.ca.gov>; Michael L. Newman <Michael.Newman@doj.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Yes, I will accept service of a subpoena for CRP. I was only authorized to respond to the SOS letter by Fresno and Orange County, and as we told you we were NOT authorized to respond to the letter by LA County (which did not have a program). I do not have authority to accept service of a subpoena for the county committees, but I can inquire, if you would like.

**Thomas W.
Hiltachk
Partner**
BELL, MCANDREWS

455 Capitol Mall, Suite
600
Sacramento, CA 95814
P (916) 442-7757
F (916) 442-7759
E tomh@bmhlaw.com

Circular 230 Disclosure: In compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS pursuant to IRS Circular 230, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

The information contained in this communication is confidential and may be attorney-client privileged. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including all attachments.

From: Laura Faer <Laura.Faer@doj.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 9:56 AM

To: Thomas Hiltachk <tomh@bmhlaw.com>; Ashlee N. Titus <atitus@bmhlaw.com>

Cc: Susan Slager <Susan.Slager@doj.ca.gov>; James Stanley <James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony OBrien <Anthony.OBrien@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony Haki <Anthony.Haki@doj.ca.gov>; Sarah Belton <Sarah.Belton@doj.ca.gov>; Vilma Palma-Solana <Vilma.Solana@doj.ca.gov>; Katherine Lehe <Katherine.Lehe@doj.ca.gov>; Thomas Patterson <Thomas.Patterson@doj.ca.gov>; Michael L. Newman <Michael.Newman@doj.ca.gov>

Subject: Follow-up

Mr. Hiltachk: I received your email stating that you and your partner, Ms. Titus, will not be able to meet with us by phone this morning, so I am following up by email.

As you know, on October 12, 2020, the Attorney General and Secretary of State's Offices sent the California Republican Party, the Fresno County Republican Party, the Los Angeles County Republican Party, and the Republican Party of Orange County a cease and desist letter, which included a demand to contact the Secretary of State's office to arrange to provide county elections officials with the contact information for voters who dropped off their ballots in unauthorized drop boxes and provide the number and location of each unofficial drop box deployed by close of business on October 15, 2020. As of close of business yesterday, you and your clients had failed to provide the aforementioned information. At this time, to, among other things, ensure the integrity of the voting process in California, that all votes placed in unauthorized boxes have been properly delivered to county election officials and that voters who dropped off ballots are aware of their rights under California law and how to track receipt of their ballots, and to ensure that all unauthorized ballot boxes have been removed statewide, we will be moving forward with issuing a subpoena for the information listed above.

Please advise by 10:15 am as to whether you will accept service on behalf of your clients, the California, Fresno County, Los Angeles County, and County of Orange Republican Party.

We are also amenable to a call with anyone in your office. If someone is available to speak with us prior to 10:15, please let us know, and we will arrange a conference call line.

In addition, we are in receipt of and assessing your communication provided at 5:54 pm last night. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura L. Faer
Deputy Attorney General
Bureau of Children's Justice
Civil Rights Enforcement Section
California Department of Justice
1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Tel: 510-879-3304

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1 XAVIER BECERRA
2 Attorney General of California
3 MICHAEL L. NEWMAN
4 Senior Assistant Attorney General
5 SARAH E. BELTON (SBN 266836)
6 SUSAN SLAGER (SBN 162942)
7 Supervising Deputy Attorneys General
8 LAURA FAER (SBN 233846)
9 KATHERINE LEHE (SBN 273472)
10 VILMA PALMA-SOLANA (SBN 267992)
11 JAMES E. STANLEY (SBN 316288)
12 Deputy Attorneys General
13 1300 I Street, 15th Floor
14 Sacramento, CA 95814
15 Telephone: (916) 210-6475
16 Fax: (916) 327-2319
17 E-mail: James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov

11 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
12 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
13 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14

15
16 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

17 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
18 LAW COMPLIANCE

INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES

19 [GOV. CODE § 11180, ET SEQ.]
20
21
22

23 NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED:

24 You are served on behalf of **the California Republican Party.**
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Pursuant to the powers conferred by Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 (Cal. Gov. Code, § 11180 et seq.) of the Government Code of California, on the Attorney General, as head of the California Department of Justice, which powers and authority to conduct the above entitled investigation have been delegated to the undersigned, an officer of that Department,

CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY

(hereinafter "WITNESS") **IS HEREBY COMMANDED** to answer separately and fully in writing, under oath, by 5:00 P.M. (PDT) on Monday, October 19, 2020, each of the interrogatories set forth below.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE

1. An answer or other appropriate response must be given to each interrogatory set forth below.
2. Each answer must be as complete and straightforward as the information reasonably available to WITNESS, including the information possessed by WITNESS's subsidiaries, affiliates, parents, predecessors, successors, employees, partners, officers, agents or representatives, permits. If an interrogatory cannot be answered completely, answer it to the extent possible, specifying the reasons for WITNESS's inability to answer the remainder of the interrogatory and stating whatever information, knowledge or belief that WITNESS has concerning the unanswered portion thereof, and "IDENTIFY" (as defined below) all other sources of more complete or accurate information.
3. As used herein, the singular includes the plural, and vice versa; and the past tense includes the present tense, and vice versa.
4. As used herein, the terms "all," includes the term "any," "each," and "every" and vice versa.
5. As used herein, the term "including" or "include" shall be construed as "including, but not limited to" or "including, without limitation," or "includes but is not limited to" or "includes, without limitation," etc.
6. As used herein, the conjunctions "and" and "or" shall be interpreted conjunctively and shall not be interpreted disjunctively to exclude any information otherwise within the scope of these Interrogatories.

1 7. If WITNESS is asserting a privilege or making an objection to an interrogatory, WITNESS
2 must specifically assert the privilege or state the objection in WITNESS's written response, and set
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4 pertains to only a portion of an interrogatory, or a word, phrase, or clause contained in it, WITNESS
5 must respond to the remainder of the interrogatory.

6 8. WITNESS's answers to these interrogatories must be verified, dated, and signed. WITNESS
7 may wish to use the following form at the end of its answers:

8 *I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing*
9 *answers are true and correct.*

10 _____
(DATE)

(SIGNATURE)

11 9. These investigative interrogatories have been issued in connection with an investigation into
12 ballot collection and election law compliance.

13 **10. WITNESS's written responses shall be delivered to the California Department of**
14 **Justice, Office of the Attorney General, 1300 I Street, 15th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814,**
15 **ATTN: Deputy Attorney General James E. Stanley, or pursuant to an alternative**
16 **arrangement with our office, AND via electronic service to James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov.**

17 **DEFINITIONS**

18 For purposes of these investigative interrogatories, the terms set forth below are defined as
19 follows:

20 A. The "RELEVANT PERIOD" of these interrogatories is September 1, 2020 through the final
21 response date of this subpoena unless otherwise expressly stated herein.

22 B. "DESCRIBE" means to state a complete description and explanation of the facts,
23 circumstances, opinion, analysis, and other information "RELATING TO" (as defined below) the
24 subject matter of the specific interrogatory.

25 C. "IDENTIFY" means to state:

- 26 1. in the case of a natural PERSON, his or her name, business address and telephone number,
27 employer, and title or position;

2. in the case of a PERSON other than a natural PERSON, its name, the address of its principal place of business (including zip code), its telephone number, and the name of its chief executive officer, the name of any PERSON that ultimately controls it, along with the address of that controlling PERSON's principal place of business (including zip code), telephone number, and if applicable, the name of that controlling PERSON's chief executive officer;
3. in the case of a location, the address (including zip code) of that location, or other identifying information if there is no address;
4. in the case of a communication, its date, type (*e.g.*, telephone conversation or discussion), the place where it occurred, the identity of the PERSON who made the communication, the identity of the PERSON who received the communication, the identity of each other PERSON present when it was made, and the subject matter discussed;
5. in the case of a DOCUMENT, the title of the DOCUMENT, the author, the title or position of the author, the addressee, each recipient, the type of DOCUMENT, the subject matter, the date of preparation, its beginning Bates number, and its total number of pages;
6. in the case of a website, provide the universal resource locator (aka the Uniform Resource Locator or URL) for the website and the IP address, IDENTIFY the web hosting service, and IDENTIFY the owner and operator of the website; and
7. in the case of a contract, provide its date, IDENTIFY all PERSONS who were parties to the contract, IDENTIFY each natural PERSON who signed the contract, IDENTIFY each PERSON who has knowledge of the contract and all other PERSONS present when it was made or negotiated, its beginning Bates number (as applicable) and the subject matter of the contract.

D. "PERSON" means any natural person, corporation, company, partnership, joint venture, firm, association, proprietorship, agency, board, authority, commission, office or other business or legal entity, whether private or public.

1 E. "RELATING TO" includes constituting, containing, concerning, discussing, describing,
2 analyzing, identifying, referring to, relating to, referencing, documenting, governing, regulating,
3 directing, evidencing or stating.

4 F. "YOU" and "YOUR" means the CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY including its
5 officers, agents, and representatives of the same.

6 G. "POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PRACTICES" refers to all reports, memoranda, legal
7 opinions, correspondence, audits, rules, policies, procedures, protocols, directives, decision trees,
8 instructions, formal or informal practices, written or unwritten, and each common understanding
9 or course of conduct that was recognized by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
10 YOUR behalf, that has been in effect at any time during the RELEVANT PERIOD. These terms
11 also include any change of policy

12 H. "DOCUMENT" means, without limitation, any "writing" as defined in California Evidence
13 Code Section 250 and includes originals (as defined in California Evidence Code section 255) or
14 duplicates (as defined in California Evidence Code section 260) or copies of the writings, and non-
15 identical copies bearing or having any attachments, notes, or marks which distinguish them from
16 the originals, and drafts, regardless of origin or location, of any information, writing or data stored
17 in paper, electronic, tape or any other format, including without limitation written or printed matter,
18 video or audio tapes, image-bearing film, photographs and images, and electronically stored
19 information ("ESI") as defined herein. It further includes without limitation letters, telegrams,
20 telexes, facsimiles, correspondence, memoranda, email, text messages, video, voicemail, reports,
21 contracts, studies, calendar or diary entries, minutes, pamphlets, handwritten notes, charts,
22 tabulations, records of meetings, conferences, digital or electronic messages or communications,
23 telephone or other conversations or communications, and tapes or slides, as well as computer files,
24 directories, and programs in whatever form, including but not limited to information stored in cloud
25 storage, mobile telephones, iPads, or tablets.

1 I. "VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT" means any ballot distributed to eligible voters that provides
2 them with the options of casting and returning their voted ballots pursuant to California Elections
3 code section 3017.

4 J. "UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX" means any box, crate, chest, cabinet, container, or other
5 receptacle used, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to
6 act on YOUR behalf for the purpose of receiving, obtaining, depositing, storing, or transporting
7 VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS at any time. This definition does not include any secure receptacle
8 established by a county or city and county official pursuant to Elections Code section 3025

9 **INTERROGATORIES**

10 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

11 IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL
12 BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.

13
14 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

15 State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed, deployed, coordinated,
16 promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on YOUR
17 behalf.

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1 INTERROGATORY NO. 3:

2 IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
3 YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX
4 during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has
5 been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX is still used, installed,
6 deployed, promoted, advertised, or distributed.

7
8 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SET OF INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES WILL
9 SUBJECT YOU TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW.

10 Dated: October 16, 2020

11 

12 JAMES E. STANLEY
13 Deputy Attorney General
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James Stanley

From: James Stanley
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 3:38 PM
To: 'Thomas Hiltachk'; Laura Faer; Ashlee N. Titus
Cc: Susan Slager; Anthony OBrien; Anthony Hakl; Sarah Belton; Vilma Palma-Solana; Katherine Lehe; Thomas Patterson; Michael L. Newman
Subject: RE: Investigative Subpoena and Interrogatories
Attachments: AGO-OC GOP Interrogatories 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-Fresno GOP Interrogatories 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-LA GOP Subpoena 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-OC GOP Subpoena 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-Fresno GOP Subpoena 2020.10.16.pdf; AGO-LA GOP Interrogatories 2020.10.16.pdf

Mr. Hiltachk:

Thank you for confirming that you are authorized to accept service. Please find attached investigative subpoenas and investigative interrogatories to the Fresno County Republican Party, the Republican Party of Orange County, and the Republican Party of Los Angeles, served via this email. Please confirm receipt.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss these documents.

Best regards,
Jim Stanley

James E. Stanley
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Rights Enforcement Section
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 210-6475
james.stanley@doj.ca.gov

From: Thomas Hiltachk <tomh@bmhlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 2:48 PM
To: James Stanley <James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov>; Laura Faer <Laura.Faer@doj.ca.gov>; Ashlee N. Titus <atitus@bmhlaw.com>
Cc: Susan Slager <Susan.Slager@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony OBrien <Anthony.OBrien@doj.ca.gov>; Anthony Hakl <Anthony.Hakl@doj.ca.gov>; Sarah Belton <Sarah.Belton@doj.ca.gov>; Vilma Palma-Solana <Vilma.Solana@doj.ca.gov>; Katherine Lehe <Katherine.Lehe@doj.ca.gov>; Thomas Patterson <Thomas.Patterson@doj.ca.gov>; Michael L. Newman <Michael.Newman@doj.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Investigative Subpoena and Interrogatories

I have been authorized by the three identified county party committees, as well (Fresno/OC/LA).

**Thomas W.
Hiltachk
Partner**

455 Capitol Mall, Suite
600
Sacramento, CA 95814
P (916) 442-7757

Circular 230 Disclosure: In compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS pursuant to IRS Circular 230, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

The information contained in this communication is confidential and may be attorney-client privileged. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including all attachments.

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Subject: RE: Investigative Subpoena and Interrogatories

Mr. Hiltachk:

Thank you for agreeing to accept service. Please find attached an investigative subpoena and investigative interrogatories for the California Republican Party, served via this email. Please confirm receipt. Please also let us know if you are authorized to accept service on behalf of the Fresno and/or Orange County Republican Committees.

We are available to discuss these documents at any time; please feel free to contact us via email or phone.

Best regards,
Jim Stanley

James E. Stanley
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Rights Enforcement Section
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 210-6475
james.stanley@doj.ca.gov

From: Thomas Hiltachk <tomh@bmhlaw.com>

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 10:20 AM

To: Laura Faer <Laura.Faer@doj.ca.gov>; Ashlee N. Titus <atitus@bmhlaw.com>

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Subject: RE: Follow-up

Yes, I will accept service of a subpoena for CRP. I was only authorized to respond to the SOS letter by Fresno and Orange County, and as we told you we were NOT authorized to respond to the letter by LA County (which did not have a

program). I do not have authority to accept service of a subpoena for the county committees, but I can inquire, if you would like.

**Thomas W.
Hiltachk
Partner**
BELL, MCANDREWS
& HILTACHK, LLP

455 Capitol Mall, Suite
600
Sacramento, CA 95814
P (916) 442-7757
F (916) 442-7759
E tomh@bmhlaw.com
Follow us on [Twitter](#)

Circular 230 Disclosure: In compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS pursuant to IRS Circular 230, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

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17 E-mail: James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov

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12 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
13 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14

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18 LAW COMPLIANCE

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[GOV. CODE § 11180, ET SEQ.]

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FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

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8 *I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing*
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10 _____
(DATE)

(SIGNATURE)

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3. in the case of a location, the address (including zip code) of that location, or other identifying information if there is no address;
4. in the case of a communication, its date, type (*e.g.*, telephone conversation or discussion), the place where it occurred, the identity of the PERSON who made the communication, the identity of the PERSON who received the communication, the identity of each other PERSON present when it was made, and the subject matter discussed;
5. in the case of a DOCUMENT, the title of the DOCUMENT, the author, the title or position of the author, the addressee, each recipient, the type of DOCUMENT, the subject matter, the date of preparation, its beginning Bates number, and its total number of pages;
6. in the case of a website, provide the universal resource locator (aka the Uniform Resource Locator or URL) for the website and the IP address, IDENTIFY the web hosting service, and IDENTIFY the owner and operator of the website; and
7. in the case of a contract, provide its date, IDENTIFY all PERSONS who were parties to the contract, IDENTIFY each natural PERSON who signed the contract, IDENTIFY each PERSON who has knowledge of the contract and all other PERSONS present when it was made or negotiated, its beginning Bates number (as applicable) and the subject matter of the contract.

D. "PERSON" means any natural person, corporation, company, partnership, joint venture, firm, association, proprietorship, agency, board, authority, commission, office or other business or legal entity, whether private or public.

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2 analyzing, identifying, referring to, relating to, referencing, documenting, governing, regulating,
3 directing, evidencing or stating.

4 F. "YOU" and "YOUR" means the FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY including its
5 officers, agents, and representatives of the same.

6 G. "POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PRACTICES" refers to all reports, memoranda, legal
7 opinions, correspondence, audits, rules, policies, procedures, protocols, directives, decision trees,
8 instructions, formal or informal practices, written or unwritten, and each common understanding
9 or course of conduct that was recognized by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
10 YOUR behalf, that has been in effect at any time during the RELEVANT PERIOD. These terms
11 also include any change of policy

12 H. "DOCUMENT" means, without limitation, any "writing" as defined in California Evidence
13 Code Section 250 and includes originals (as defined in California Evidence Code section 255) or
14 duplicates (as defined in California Evidence Code section 260) or copies of the writings, and non-
15 identical copies bearing or having any attachments, notes, or marks which distinguish them from
16 the originals, and drafts, regardless of origin or location, of any information, writing or data stored
17 in paper, electronic, tape or any other format, including without limitation written or printed matter,
18 video or audio tapes, image-bearing film, photographs and images, and electronically stored
19 information ("ESI") as defined herein. It further includes without limitation letters, telegrams,
20 telexes, facsimiles, correspondence, memoranda, email, text messages, video, voicemail, reports,
21 contracts, studies, calendar or diary entries, minutes, pamphlets, handwritten notes, charts,
22 tabulations, records of meetings, conferences, digital or electronic messages or communications,
23 telephone or other conversations or communications, and tapes or slides, as well as computer files,
24 directories, and programs in whatever form, including but not limited to information stored in cloud
25 storage, mobile telephones, iPads, or tablets.

1 I. "VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT" means any ballot distributed to eligible voters that provides
2 them with the options of casting and returning their voted ballots pursuant to California Elections
3 code section 3017.

4 J. "UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX" means any box, crate, chest, cabinet, container, or other
5 receptacle used, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to
6 act on YOUR behalf for the purpose of receiving, obtaining, depositing, storing, or transporting
7 VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS at any time. This definition does not include any secure receptacle
8 established by a county or city and county official pursuant to Elections Code section 3025

9 **INTERROGATORIES**

10 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

11 IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL
12 BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.

13
14 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

15 State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed, deployed, coordinated,
16 promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on YOUR
17 behalf.

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1 INTERROGATORY NO. 3:

2 IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
3 YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX
4 during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has
5 been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX is still used, installed,
6 deployed, promoted, advertised, or distributed.

7
8 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SET OF INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES WILL
9 SUBJECT YOU TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW.

10 Dated: October 16, 2020

11 
12 JAMES E. STANLEY
Deputy Attorney General

1 XAVIER BECERRA
2 Attorney General of California
3 MICHAEL L. NEWMAN
4 Senior Assistant Attorney General
5 SARAH E. BELTON (SBN 266836)
6 SUSAN SLAGER (SBN 162942)
7 Supervising Deputy Attorneys General
8 LAURA FAER (SBN 233846)
9 KATHERINE LEHE (SBN 273472)
10 VILMA PALMA-SOLANA (SBN 267992)
11 JAMES E. STANLEY (SBN 316288)
12 Deputy Attorneys General
13 1300 I Street, 15th Floor
14 Sacramento, CA 95814
15 Telephone: (916) 210-6475
16 Fax: (916) 327-2319
17 E-mail: James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov

11 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
12 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
13 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

16 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

17 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
18 LAW COMPLIANCE

INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES

[GOV. CODE § 11180, ET SEQ.]

22 NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED:

23 You are served on behalf of **the Republican Party of Orange County.**

1 Pursuant to the powers conferred by Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 (Cal. Gov. Code,
2 § 11180 et seq.) of the Government Code of California, on the Attorney General, as head of the
3 California Department of Justice, which powers and authority to conduct the above entitled
4 investigation have been delegated to the undersigned, an officer of that Department,

5 **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY**

6 (hereinafter "WITNESS") **IS HEREBY COMMANDED** to answer separately and fully in
7 writing, under oath, by 5:00 P.M. (PDT) on Monday, October 19, 2020, each of the interrogatories
8 set forth below.

9 **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE**

- 10 1. An answer or other appropriate response must be given to each interrogatory set forth below.
- 11 2. Each answer must be as complete and straightforward as the information reasonably available
12 to WITNESS, including the information possessed by WITNESS's subsidiaries, affiliates, parents,
13 predecessors, successors, employees, partners, officers, agents or representatives, permits. If an
14 interrogatory cannot be answered completely, answer it to the extent possible, specifying the
15 reasons for WITNESS's inability to answer the remainder of the interrogatory and stating whatever
16 information, knowledge or belief that WITNESS has concerning the unanswered portion thereof,
17 and "IDENTIFY" (as defined below) all other sources of more complete or accurate information.
- 18 3. As used herein, the singular includes the plural, and vice versa; and the past tense includes
19 the present tense, and vice versa.
- 20 4. As used herein, the terms "all," includes the term "any," "each," and "every" and vice versa.
- 21 5. As used herein, the term "including" or "include" shall be construed as "including, but not
22 limited to" or "including, without limitation," or "includes but is not limited to" or "includes,
23 without limitation," etc.
- 24 6. As used herein, the conjunctions "and" and "or" shall be interpreted conjunctively and shall
25 not be interpreted disjunctively to exclude any information otherwise within the scope of these
26 Interrogatories.

1 7. If WITNESS is asserting a privilege or making an objection to an interrogatory, WITNESS
2 must specifically assert the privilege or state the objection in WITNESS's written response, and set
3 forth in detail the basis for WITNESS's objection or assertion of the privilege. If an objection
4 pertains to only a portion of an interrogatory, or a word, phrase, or clause contained in it, WITNESS
5 must respond to the remainder of the interrogatory.

6 8. WITNESS's answers to these interrogatories must be verified, dated, and signed. WITNESS
7 may wish to use the following form at the end of its answers:

8 *I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing*
9 *answers are true and correct.*

10 _____
(DATE)

(SIGNATURE)

11 9. These investigative interrogatories have been issued in connection with an investigation into
12 ballot collection and election law compliance.

13 **10. WITNESS's written responses shall be delivered to the California Department of**
14 **Justice, Office of the Attorney General, 1300 I Street, 15th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814,**
15 **ATTN: Deputy Attorney General James E. Stanley, or pursuant to an alternative**
16 **arrangement with our office, AND via electronic service to James.Stanley@doj.ca.gov.**

17 **DEFINITIONS**

18 For purposes of these investigative interrogatories, the terms set forth below are defined as
19 follows:

20 A. The "RELEVANT PERIOD" of these interrogatories is September 1, 2020 through the final
21 response date of this subpoena unless otherwise expressly stated herein.

22 B. "DESCRIBE" means to state a complete description and explanation of the facts,
23 circumstances, opinion, analysis, and other information "RELATING TO" (as defined below) the
24 subject matter of the specific interrogatory.

25 C. "IDENTIFY" means to state:

- 26 1. in the case of a natural PERSON, his or her name, business address and telephone number,
27 employer, and title or position;

2. in the case of a PERSON other than a natural PERSON, its name, the address of its principal place of business (including zip code), its telephone number, and the name of its chief executive officer, the name of any PERSON that ultimately controls it, along with the address of that controlling PERSON's principal place of business (including zip code), telephone number, and if applicable, the name of that controlling PERSON's chief executive officer;
3. in the case of a location, the address (including zip code) of that location, or other identifying information if there is no address;
4. in the case of a communication, its date, type (*e.g.*, telephone conversation or discussion), the place where it occurred, the identity of the PERSON who made the communication, the identity of the PERSON who received the communication, the identity of each other PERSON present when it was made, and the subject matter discussed;
5. in the case of a DOCUMENT, the title of the DOCUMENT, the author, the title or position of the author, the addressee, each recipient, the type of DOCUMENT, the subject matter, the date of preparation, its beginning Bates number, and its total number of pages;
6. in the case of a website, provide the universal resource locator (aka the Uniform Resource Locator or URL) for the website and the IP address, IDENTIFY the web hosting service, and IDENTIFY the owner and operator of the website; and
7. in the case of a contract, provide its date, IDENTIFY all PERSONS who were parties to the contract, IDENTIFY each natural PERSON who signed the contract, IDENTIFY each PERSON who has knowledge of the contract and all other PERSONS present when it was made or negotiated, its beginning Bates number (as applicable) and the subject matter of the contract.

D. "PERSON" means any natural person, corporation, company, partnership, joint venture, firm, association, proprietorship, agency, board, authority, commission, office or other business or legal entity, whether private or public.

1 E. "RELATING TO" includes constituting, containing, concerning, discussing, describing,
2 analyzing, identifying, referring to, relating to, referencing, documenting, governing, regulating,
3 directing, evidencing or stating.

4 F. "YOU" and "YOUR" means the REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY including
5 its officers, agents, and representatives of the same.

6 G. "POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PRACTICES" refers to all reports, memoranda, legal
7 opinions, correspondence, audits, rules, policies, procedures, protocols, directives, decision trees,
8 instructions, formal or informal practices, written or unwritten, and each common understanding
9 or course of conduct that was recognized by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
10 YOUR behalf, that has been in effect at any time during the RELEVANT PERIOD. These terms
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13 Code Section 250 and includes originals (as defined in California Evidence Code section 255) or
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16 the originals, and drafts, regardless of origin or location, of any information, writing or data stored
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1 I. "VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT" means any ballot distributed to eligible voters that provides
2 them with the options of casting and returning their voted ballots pursuant to California Elections
3 code section 3017.

4 J. "UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX" means any box, crate, chest, cabinet, container, or other
5 receptacle used, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to
6 act on YOUR behalf for the purpose of receiving, obtaining, depositing, storing, or transporting
7 VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS at any time. This definition does not include any secure receptacle
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9 **INTERROGATORIES**

10 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

11 IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL
12 BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.

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14 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

15 State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed, deployed, coordinated,
16 promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on YOUR
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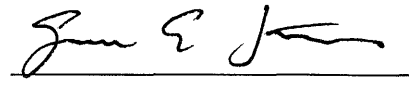
28 \\\

1 INTERROGATORY NO. 3:

2 IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
3 YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX
4 during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has
5 been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX is still used, installed,
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8 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SET OF INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES WILL
9 SUBJECT YOU TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW.

10 Dated: October 16, 2020

11 
12 JAMES E. STANLEY
13 Deputy Attorney General
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1 XAVIER BECERRA
2 Attorney General of California
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4 Senior Assistant Attorney General
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11 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
12 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
13 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

16 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

17 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
18 LAW COMPLIANCE

INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES

[GOV. CODE § 11180, ET SEQ.]

22 NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED:

23 You are served on behalf of **the Republican Party of Los Angeles County.**

Pursuant to the powers conferred by Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 (Cal. Gov. Code, § 11180 et seq.) of the Government Code of California, on the Attorney General, as head of the California Department of Justice, which powers and authority to conduct the above entitled investigation have been delegated to the undersigned, an officer of that Department,

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

(hereinafter "WITNESS") **IS HEREBY COMMANDED** to answer separately and fully in writing, under oath, by 5:00 P.M. (PDT) on Monday, October 19, 2020, each of the interrogatories set forth below.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE

1. An answer or other appropriate response must be given to each interrogatory set forth below.
2. Each answer must be as complete and straightforward as the information reasonably available to WITNESS, including the information possessed by WITNESS's subsidiaries, affiliates, parents, predecessors, successors, employees, partners, officers, agents or representatives, permits. If an interrogatory cannot be answered completely, answer it to the extent possible, specifying the reasons for WITNESS's inability to answer the remainder of the interrogatory and stating whatever information, knowledge or belief that WITNESS has concerning the unanswered portion thereof, and "IDENTIFY" (as defined below) all other sources of more complete or accurate information.
3. As used herein, the singular includes the plural, and vice versa; and the past tense includes the present tense, and vice versa.
4. As used herein, the terms "all," includes the term "any," "each," and "every" and vice versa.
5. As used herein, the term "including" or "include" shall be construed as "including, but not limited to" or "including, without limitation," or "includes but is not limited to" or "includes, without limitation," etc.
6. As used herein, the conjunctions "and" and "or" shall be interpreted conjunctively and shall not be interpreted disjunctively to exclude any information otherwise within the scope of these Interrogatories.

1 7. If WITNESS is asserting a privilege or making an objection to an interrogatory, WITNESS
2 must specifically assert the privilege or state the objection in WITNESS's written response, and set
3 forth in detail the basis for WITNESS's objection or assertion of the privilege. If an objection
4 pertains to only a portion of an interrogatory, or a word, phrase, or clause contained in it, WITNESS
5 must respond to the remainder of the interrogatory.

6 8. WITNESS's answers to these interrogatories must be verified, dated, and signed. WITNESS
7 may wish to use the following form at the end of its answers:

8 *I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing*
9 *answers are true and correct.*

10 _____
(DATE)

(SIGNATURE)

11 9. These investigative interrogatories have been issued in connection with an investigation into
12 ballot collection and election law compliance.

13 **10. WITNESS's written responses shall be delivered to the California Department of**
14 **Justice, Office of the Attorney General, 1300 I Street, 15th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814,**
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- 26 1. in the case of a natural PERSON, his or her name, business address and telephone number,
27 employer, and title or position;

2. in the case of a PERSON other than a natural PERSON, its name, the address of its principal place of business (including zip code), its telephone number, and the name of its chief executive officer, the name of any PERSON that ultimately controls it, along with the address of that controlling PERSON's principal place of business (including zip code), telephone number, and if applicable, the name of that controlling PERSON's chief executive officer;
3. in the case of a location, the address (including zip code) of that location, or other identifying information if there is no address;
4. in the case of a communication, its date, type (*e.g.*, telephone conversation or discussion), the place where it occurred, the identity of the PERSON who made the communication, the identity of the PERSON who received the communication, the identity of each other PERSON present when it was made, and the subject matter discussed;
5. in the case of a DOCUMENT, the title of the DOCUMENT, the author, the title or position of the author, the addressee, each recipient, the type of DOCUMENT, the subject matter, the date of preparation, its beginning Bates number, and its total number of pages;
6. in the case of a website, provide the universal resource locator (aka the Uniform Resource Locator or URL) for the website and the IP address, IDENTIFY the web hosting service, and IDENTIFY the owner and operator of the website; and
7. in the case of a contract, provide its date, IDENTIFY all PERSONS who were parties to the contract, IDENTIFY each natural PERSON who signed the contract, IDENTIFY each PERSON who has knowledge of the contract and all other PERSONS present when it was made or negotiated, its beginning Bates number (as applicable) and the subject matter of the contract.

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15 identical copies bearing or having any attachments, notes, or marks which distinguish them from
16 the originals, and drafts, regardless of origin or location, of any information, writing or data stored
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21 contracts, studies, calendar or diary entries, minutes, pamphlets, handwritten notes, charts,
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1 INTERROGATORY NO. 3:

2 IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS acting or purporting to act on
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8 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SET OF INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES WILL
9 SUBJECT YOU TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW.

10 Dated: October 16, 2020



11 JAMES E. STANLEY
12 Deputy Attorney General

Exhibit B

James Stanley

From: Kiersten Merina <kmerina@bmhlaw.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 4:54 PM
To: James Stanley
Cc: Thomas Hiltachk; Paul Gough
Subject: Ballot Collection and Election Law Compliance
Attachments: Pld 002 Rogg Response CRP.pdf; Pld 002 Rogg Response FCRP.pdf; Pld 002 Rogg Response LAGOP.pdf; Pld 002 Rogg Response OCGOP.pdf

Importance: High

Mr. Stanley:

Re: Ballot Collection and Election Law Compliance

Pursuant to the parties' agreement to accept electronic service of documents for the above-referenced investigation, please find the following attached hereto:

- 1) California Republican Party's Response To The Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories;
- 2) Fresno County Republican Party's Response To The Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories;
- 3) Republican Party of Los Angeles County's Response To The Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories; and
- 4) Republican Party of Orange County's Response To The Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories.

If you have any issues opening the documents, please do not hesitate to contact me. A courtesy copy was also hand delivered to your office.

Kindly,

Kiersten Merina
Paralegal

BELL, MCANDREWS
& HILTACHK, LLP

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814
P (916) 442-7757
F (916) 442-7759

This communication is confidential and may be legally privileged.

 Please consider the environment before printing this email

1 Thomas W. Hiltachk (SBN 131215)
tomh@bmhlaw.com

2 Paul T. Gough (SBN 75502)
pgough@bmhlaw.com

3 Brian T. Hildreth (SBN 214131)
bhildreth@bmhlaw.com

4 **BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP**

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600

Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 442-7757

6 Facsimile: (916) 442-7759

7 *Attorneys for Respondent*
California Republican Party

8
9 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12
13 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

14 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
15 LAW COMPLIANCE

**CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY'S
RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S INVESTIGATIVE
INTERROGATORIES**

16
17 **SET ONE**

18
19 PROPOUNDING PARTY: ATTORNEY GENERAL

20 RESPONDING PARTY: CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY

21 SET NUMBER: ONE

22
23 The CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY ("CRP") responds to the Attorney General's
24 Investigative Interrogatories, Set 1, as follows:

25 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:** IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that
26 have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.
27

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

2 CRP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not regularly
3 promulgated as that term is used in Government Code section 11188 including the fact that the
4 interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of Friday,
5 October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The short
6 response time was not even disclosed to counsel for CRP at the time the request to accept service
7 was made by counsel for the Attorney General.

8 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the Attorney General has no
9 statutory authority to investigate non-criminal activities that are constitutionally protected under
10 the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of California,
11 and regulated under the California Elections Code and by the Secretary of State. If the Attorney
12 General is investigating criminal activity, it may not use an administrative subpoena to obtain
13 information in furtherance of such an investigation.

14 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that an administrative
15 interrogatory may not be used to compel disclosure of constitutionally protected private,
16 associational, political, and/or confidential information, and there is no legitimate or important
17 interest in compelling such disclosure here.

18 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that there is no law, violation of
19 law, or threatened violation of law being investigated, which is necessary to confirm statutory
20 authority for the investigation and relevancy of the information sought.

21 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks constitutionally
22 protected information and seeks to violate the secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who
23 provided their VBM ballot to CRP.

24 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is burdensome and
25 oppressive and not calculated to lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

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2 interfere with CRP's political operations at a critical time (the General election just 14 days
3 away), as evidenced by the demand for response by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October, 19th, 2020,
4 the next business day following its service in the afternoon of Friday, October 16, 2020, without
5 any justification for the shortened response time.

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7 protected by attorney-client privilege (see, pg. 5).

8 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is vague, ambiguous,
9 unintelligible and calls for speculation as to its meaning.

10 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is
11 irrelevant to any law, alleged violation of law, or anticipated violation of law.

12 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is indefinite and
13 unanswerable under penalty of perjury. The "RELEVANT PERIOD" is defined as September 1,
14 2020 "through the final response date of this subpoena," presumably 5:00 p.m, October 19, 2020.
15 The state has over 40 million registered voters spread out over 58 counties. CRP could not
16 provide an accurate response at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020.

17 CRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
18 compliance with this subpoena.

19 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:** State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed,
20 deployed, coordinated, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or
21 purporting to act on YOUR behalf.

22
23 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

24 CRP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not regularly
25 promulgated as that term is used in Government Code section 11188 including the fact that the
26 interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of Friday,
27 October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The short

1 response time was not even disclosed to counsel for CRP at the time the request to accept service
2 was made by counsel for the Attorney General.

3 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the Attorney General has no
4 statutory authority to investigate non-criminal activities that are constitutionally protected under
5 the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of California,
6 and regulated under the California Elections Code and by the Secretary of State. If the Attorney
7 General is investigating criminal activity, it may not use an administrative subpoena to obtain
8 information in furtherance of such an investigation.

9 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that an administrative
10 interrogatory may not be used to compel disclosure of constitutionally protected private,
11 associational, political, and/or confidential information, and there is no legitimate or important
12 interest in compelling such disclosure here.

13 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that there is no law, violation of
14 law, or threatened violation of law being investigated, which is necessary to confirm statutory
15 authority for the investigation and relevancy of the information sought.

16 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks constitutionally
17 protected information and seeks to violate the secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who
18 provided their VBM ballot to CRP.

19 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is burdensome and
20 oppressive and not calculated to lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

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22 information that is not reasonably relevant to any lawful investigation.

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24 interfere with CRP's political operations at a critical time (the General election just 14 days
25 away), as evidenced by the demand for response by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October, 19th, 2020,
26 the next business day following its service in the afternoon of Friday, October 16, 2020, without
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5 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is
6 irrelevant to any law, alleged violation of law, or anticipated violation of law. There is no law
7 that imposes a duty on any person to declare a “box, crate, chest, cabinet, container, or other
8 receptacle” as “unofficial,” there is no law prohibiting the use of a such a receptacle for the
9 purpose of “storing” VBM ballots, and there is no law imposing a limitation on the number of
10 such receptacles used. Whether the answer is 10 or 10,000, that answer is not relevant to any
11 “investigation” of the Department of Justice.

12 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is indefinite and
13 unanswerable under penalty of perjury. The “RELEVANT PERIOD” is defined as September 1,
14 2020 “through the final response date of this subpoena,” presumably 5:00 p.m, October 19, 2020.
15 The state has over 40 million registered voters spread out over 58 counties. CRP could not
16 provide an accurate response at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020.

17 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the term “UNOFFICIAL
18 DROP BOXES” is not defined in the interrogatory even though it is capitalized which implies a
19 definition is provided in the interrogatories.

20 CRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
21 compliance with this subpoena.

22 **INTERROGATORY NO. 3:** IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS
23 acting or purporting to act on YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an
24 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an
25 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL
26 DROP BOX is still used, installed, deployed, promoted, advertised, or distributed.

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 3:**

2 CRP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not regularly
3 promulgated as that term is used in Government Code section 11188 including the fact that the
4 interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of Friday,
5 October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The short
6 response time was not even disclosed to counsel for CRP at the time the request to accept service
7 was made by counsel for the Attorney General.

8 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the Attorney General has no
9 statutory authority to investigate non-criminal activities that are constitutionally protected under
10 the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of California,
11 and regulated under the California Elections Code and by the Secretary of State. If the Attorney
12 General is investigating criminal activity, it may not use an administrative subpoena to obtain
13 information in furtherance of such an investigation.

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15 interrogatory may not be used to compel disclosure of constitutionally protected private,
16 associational, political, and/or confidential information, and there is no legitimate or important
17 interest in compelling such disclosure here.

18 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that there is no law, violation of
19 law, or threatened violation of law being investigated, which is necessary to confirm statutory
20 authority for the investigation and relevancy of the information sought.

21 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks constitutionally
22 protected information and seeks to violate the secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who
23 provided their VBM ballot to CRP.

24 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is burdensome and
25 oppressive and not calculated to lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

26 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory requests
27 information that is not reasonably relevant to any lawful investigation.

1 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is intended to harass and
2 interfere with CRP's political operations at a critical time (the General election just 14 days
3 away), as evidenced by the demand for response by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October, 19th, 2020,
4 the next business day following its service in the afternoon of Friday, October 16, 2020, without
5 any justification for the shortened response time.

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7 protected by attorney-client privilege (see, pg. 5).

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9 unintelligible and calls for speculation as to its meaning.

10 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is
11 irrelevant to any law, alleged violation of law, or anticipated violation of law. There is no law
12 that restricts the location or number of locations in which a voter can entrust CRP with his or her
13 VBM ballot and the CRP's use of a receptacle for temporary storage of that ballot. Thus, the
14 location of any receptacle is not relevant to any "investigation" of the Department of Justice.

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16 unanswerable under penalty of perjury. The "RELEVANT PERIOD" is defined as September 1,
17 2020 "through the final response date of this subpoena," presumably 5:00 p.m, October 19, 2020.
18 The state has over 40 million registered voters spread out over 58 counties. CRP could not
19 provide an accurate response at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020.

20 CRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the term "UNOFFICIAL
21 DROP BOXES" is not defined in the interrogatory even though it is capitalized which implies a
22 definition is provided in the interrogatories.

23 CRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
24 compliance with this subpoena.

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

1 DATED: October 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted.

2
3 BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP

4
5 BY:  _____

6 THOMAS W. HILTACHK

Attorney for Respondent

7 CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

- 2
- 3 1. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this cause. I am employed in the county
- 4 where the mailing occurred. The following facts are within my first-hand and
- 5 personal knowledge and if called as a witness, I could and would testify thereto.
- 6
- 7 2. My business address is 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95814.
- 8
- 9 3. On October 19, 2020, I served the foregoing document entitled

10 **CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY'S RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY**

11 **GENERAL'S INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

12 on each person named below by attaching a true copy addressed as shown in

13 Item 4 and by transmitting, by email, and causing to be hand delivered, to the

14 offices of the addressee following ordinary business practices by 5:00pm.

- 15 4. Name and address of each person served:

16 California Department of Justice

17 James Stanley

18 Deputy Attorney General

19 1300 I Street, 15th Floor

20 Sacramento, CA 95814

21 James.stanley@doj.ca.gov

22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the

23 foregoing is true and correct.

24 Executed on October 19, 2020, at Sacramento, California.

25  _____

26

27

28

1 Thomas W. Hiltachk (SBN 131215)
tomh@bmhlaw.com

2 Paul T. Gough (SBN 75502)
pgough@bmhlaw.com

3 Brian T. Hildreth (SBN 214131)
bhildreth@bmhlaw.com

4 **BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP**

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600

Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 442-7757

6 Facsimile: (916) 442-7759

7 *Attorneys for Respondent*

Fresno County Republican Party

8
9 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12
13 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

14 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
15 LAW COMPLIANCE

**FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN
PARTY'S RESPONSE TO THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

16
17 **SET ONE**

18
19 PROPOUNDING PARTY: ATTORNEY GENERAL

20 RESPONDING PARTY: FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

21 SET NUMBER: ONE

22
23 The FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY ("FCRP") responds to the Attorney
24 General's Investigative Interrogatories, Set 1, as follows:

25 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:** IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that
26 have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.
27

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

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17 FCRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
18 compliance with this subpoena.

19 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:** State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed,
20 deployed, coordinated, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or
21 purporting to act on YOUR behalf.

22
23 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

24 FCRP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not regularly
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26 interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of Friday,
27 October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The short

1 response time was not even disclosed to counsel for FCRP at the time the request to accept
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20 FCRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
21 compliance with this subpoena.

22 **INTERROGATORY NO. 3:** IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS
23 acting or purporting to act on YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an
24 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an
25 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL
26 DROP BOX is still used, installed, deployed, promoted, advertised, or distributed.

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 3:**

2 FCRP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not regularly
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5 October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The short
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11 and regulated under the California Elections Code and by the Secretary of State. If the Attorney
12 General is investigating criminal activity, it may not use an administrative subpoena to obtain
13 information in furtherance of such an investigation.

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21 FCRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks constitutionally
22 protected information and seeks to violate the secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who
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24 FCRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is burdensome and
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26 FCRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory requests
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1 FCRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is intended to harass and
2 interfere with FCRP's political operations at a critical time (the General election just 14 days
3 away), as evidenced by the demand for response by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October, 19th, 2020,
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10 FCRP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks information that is
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12 that restricts the location or number of locations in which a voter can entrust FCRP with his or her
13 VBM ballot and the FCRP's use of a receptacle for temporary storage of that ballot. Thus, the
14 location of any receptacle is not relevant to any "investigation" of the Department of Justice.

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18 The state has over 40 million registered voters spread out over 58 counties. FCRP could not
19 provide an accurate response at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020.

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21 DROP BOXES" is not defined in the interrogatory even though it is capitalized which implies a
22 definition is provided in the interrogatories.

23 FCRP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
24 compliance with this subpoena.

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

1 DATED: October 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted.

2
3 BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP

4
5 BY: 

6 THOMAS W. HILTACHK

Attorney for Respondent

7 *FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY*

PROOF OF SERVICE

1. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this cause. I am employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The following facts are within my first-hand and personal knowledge and if called as a witness, I could and would testify thereto.
2. My business address is 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95814.
3. On October 19, 2020, I served the foregoing document entitled

**FRESNO COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY'S RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

on each person named below by attaching a true copy addressed as shown in Item 4 and by transmitting, by email, and causing to be hand delivered, to the offices of the addressee following ordinary business practices by 5:00pm.

4. Name and address of each person served:

California Department of Justice
James Stanley
Deputy Attorney General
1300 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
James.stanley@doj.ca.gov

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

Executed on October 19, 2020, at Sacramento, California.

 _____

1 Thomas W. Hiltachk (SBN 131215)
tomh@bmhlaw.com

2 Paul T. Gough (SBN 75502)
pgough@bmhlaw.com

3 Brian T. Hildreth (SBN 214131)
bhildreth@bmhlaw.com

4 **BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP**

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600

Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 442-7757

6 Facsimile: (916) 442-7759

7 *Attorneys for Respondent*

Republican Party of Los Angeles County

8
9 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12
13 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

14 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
15 LAW COMPLIANCE

**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS
ANGELES COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

16
17 **SET ONE**

18
19 PROPOUNDING PARTY: ATTORNEY GENERAL

20 RESPONDING PARTY: REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

21 SET NUMBER: ONE

22
23 The REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY ("LAGOP") responds to the
24 Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories, Set 1, as follows:

25 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:** IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that
26 have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.
27

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

2 LAGOP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not
3 regularly promulgated as that term is used in Government Code section 11188 including the fact
4 that the interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of
5 Friday, October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The
6 short response time was not even disclosed to counsel for LAGOP at the time the request to
7 accept service was made by counsel for the Attorney General.

8 LAGOP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the Attorney General has
9 no statutory authority to investigate non-criminal activities that are constitutionally protected
10 under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of
11 California, and regulated under the California Elections Code and by the Secretary of State. If the
12 Attorney General is investigating criminal activity, it may not use an administrative subpoena to
13 obtain information in furtherance of such an investigation.

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17 interest in compelling such disclosure here.

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19 of law, or threatened violation of law being investigated, which is necessary to confirm statutory
20 authority for the investigation and relevancy of the information sought.

21 LAGOP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it seeks constitutionally
22 protected information and seeks to violate the secrecy of the ballot and the trust of voters who
23 provided their VBM ballot to LAGOP.

24 LAGOP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it is burdensome and
25 oppressive and not calculated to lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

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27 information that is not reasonably relevant to any lawful investigation.

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2 interfere with LAGOP's political operations at a critical time (the General election just 14 days
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18 compliance with this subpoena.

19 **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:** State the number of UNOFFICIAL DROP BOXES used, installed,
20 deployed, coordinated, promoted, advertised, or distributed by YOU or PERSONS acting or
21 purporting to act on YOUR behalf.

22
23 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

24 LAGOP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not
25 regularly promulgated as that term is used in Government Code section 11188 including the fact
26 that the interrogatories were served on counsel (as a professional courtesy) on the afternoon of
27 Friday, October 16, 2020 with a response date of Monday, October 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The

1 short response time was not even disclosed to counsel for LAGOP at the time the request to
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25 away), as evidenced by the demand for response by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October, 19th, 2020,
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7 that imposes a duty on any person to declare a “box, crate, chest, cabinet, container, or other
8 receptacle” as “unofficial,” there is no law prohibiting the use of a such a receptacle for the
9 purpose of “storing” VBM ballots, and there is no law imposing a limitation on the number of
10 such receptacles used. Whether the answer is 10 or 10,000, that answer is not relevant to any
11 “investigation” of the Department of Justice.

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13 unanswerable under penalty of perjury. The “RELEVANT PERIOD” is defined as September 1,
14 2020 “through the final response date of this subpoena,” presumably 5:00 p.m, October 19, 2020.
15 The state has over 40 million registered voters spread out over 58 counties. LAGOP could not
16 provide an accurate response at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2020.

17 LAGOP further objects to this interrogatory on the ground that the term “UNOFFICIAL
18 DROP BOXES” is not defined in the interrogatory even though it is capitalized which implies a
19 definition is provided in the interrogatories.

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21 compliance with this subpoena.

22 **INTERROGATORY NO. 3:** IDENTIFY all locations in California where YOU or PERSONS
23 acting or purporting to act on YOUR behalf have previously placed or are currently placing an
24 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX during the RELEVANT PERIOD. State the locations where an
25 UNOFFICIAL DROP BOX has been removed and state the locations where an UNOFFICIAL
26 DROP BOX is still used, installed, deployed, promoted, advertised, or distributed.

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2 LAGOP objects to this interrogatory on the ground that this interrogatory was not
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12 that restricts the location or number of locations in which a voter can entrust LAGOP with his or
13 her VBM ballot and the LAGOP's use of a receptacle for temporary storage of that ballot. Thus,
14 the location of any receptacle is not relevant to any "investigation" of the Department of Justice.

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21 DROP BOXES" is not defined in the interrogatory even though it is capitalized which implies a
22 definition is provided in the interrogatories.

23 LAGOP reserves the right to include additional objections upon any motion to compel
24 compliance with this subpoena.

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1 DATED: October 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted.

2
3 BE

.P

4
5 BY 

TH

Attorney for Respondent

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

PROOF OF SERVICE

1. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this cause. I am employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The following facts are within my first-hand and personal knowledge and if called as a witness, I could and would testify thereto.
2. My business address is 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95814.
3. On October 19, 2020, I served the foregoing document entitled

**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

on each person named below by attaching a true copy addressed as shown in Item 4 and by transmitting, by email, and causing to be hand delivered, to the offices of the addressee following ordinary business practices by 5:00pm.

4. Name and address of each person served:

California Department of Justice
James Stanley
Deputy Attorney General
1300 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
James.stanley@doj.ca.gov

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

Executed on October 19, 2020, at Sacramento, California.

 _____

1 Thomas W. Hiltachk (SBN 131215)
tomh@bmhlaw.com

2 Paul T. Gough (SBN 75502)
pgough@bmhlaw.com

3 Brian T. Hildreth (SBN 214131)
bhildreth@bmhlaw.com

4 **BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP**

455 Capitol Mall, Suite 600

Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 442-7757

6 Facsimile: (916) 442-7759

7 *Attorneys for Respondent*

Republican Party of Orange County

8
9 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12
13 In the Matter of the Investigation of:

14 BALLOT COLLECTION AND ELECTION
15 LAW COMPLIANCE

**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE
COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

16
17 **SET ONE**

18
19 PROPOUNDING PARTY: ATTORNEY GENERAL

20 RESPONDING PARTY: REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY

21 SET NUMBER: ONE

22
23 The REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY ("OCGOP") responds to the
24 Attorney General's Investigative Interrogatories, Set 1, as follows:

25 **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:** IDENTIFY all individuals by name, address, and birth date that
26 have deposited a VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT in any UNOFFICIAL BALLOT BOX.
27

1 **RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

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1 DATED: October 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted.

2
3 BELL, McANDREWS & HILTACHK, LLP

4
5 BY: 

6 THOMAS W. HILTACHK

Attorney for Respondent

7 *REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY*

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- REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S INVESTIGATIVE INTERROGATORIES**

4. Name and address of each person served:

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

Executed on October 19, 2020, at Sacramento, California.

K Merina