

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

League of Women Voters of Ohio, <i>et al.</i> , Petitioners, v. Ohio Redistricting Commission, <i>et al.</i> , Respondents.	Case No. 2021-1193
Bria Bennett, <i>et al.</i> , Petitioners, v. Ohio Redistricting Commission, <i>et al.</i> , Respondents.	Case No. 2021-1198
Ohio Organizing Collaborative, <i>et al.</i> , Petitioners, v. Ohio Redistricting Commission, <i>et al.</i> , Respondents.	Case No. 2021-1210

**RESPONDENTS MCCOLLEY AND LARE'S
RESPONSE TO PETITIONERS' MOTIONS FOR SCHEDULING ORDER**

W. Stuart Dornette (0002955)
Beth A. Bryan (0082076)
Philip D. Williamson (0097174)
TAFT STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER LLP
425 Walnut St., Suite 1800
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3957
T: (513) 381-2838
dornette@taftlaw.com
bryan@taftlaw.com
pwilliamson@taftlaw.com

Counsel for Respondents Senator Robert McColley and Representative Jeffrey LaRe

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
T: (614) 586-1972 x 125
flevenson@acluohio.org

David J. Carey (0088787)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, OH 43206
T: (614) 586-1972 x2004
dcarey@acluohio.org

Kelsey Miller
Julie A. Ebenstein (PHV 25423-2023)
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
125 Broad Street
New York, NY 10004
T: (212) 519-7866
jebenstein@aclu.org

Robert D. Fram (PHV 25414-2021)
Donald Brown
Joshua González (PHV 25424-2021)
David Denuyl (PHV 25452-2021)
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP
Salesforce Tower
415 Mission Street, Suite 5400
San Francisco, CA 94105-2533
T: (415) 591 6000
rfram@cov.com

Anupam Sharma (PHV 25418-2021)
James Hovard (PHV 25420-2021)
Yale Fu (PHV 25419-2021)
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP
3000 El Camino Real
5 Palo Alto Square, 10th Floor
Palo Alto, CA 94306-2112
T: (650) 632-4700
asharma@cov.com

DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL
Julie M. Pfeiffer
Counsel of Record (0069762)
Jonathan D. Blanton (0070035)
Michael A. Walton (0092201)
Allison D. Daniel (0096186)
30 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 466-2872
F: (614) 728-7592
julie.pfeiffer@ohioago.gov
jonathan.blanton@ohioago.gov
michael.walton@ohioago.gov
michael.hendershot@ohioago.gov

Counsel for Respondents
Secretary of State Frank LaRose and
Auditor Keith Faber

David A. Lockshaw, Jr. (0082403)
Terrence O'Donnell (0074213)
Manuel D. Cardona-Nieves (0098079)
DICKINSON WRIGHT PLLC
180 East Broad Street, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 774-2945
dlockshaw@dickinsonwright.com
todonnell@dickinson-wright.com
mcardona@dickinson-wright.com

Counsel for Respondent Secretary of State
Frank LaRose

Anne Marie Sferra (0030855)
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
100 S. Third St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
T: (614) 227-2300
asferra@bricker.com

Abha Khanna (PHV 2189-2021)
Ben Stafford (PHV 25433-2021)
ELIAS LAW GROUP
1700 Seventh Ave, Suite 2100
Seattle, WA 98101
akhanna@elias.law
bstafford@elias.law
T: (206) 656-0176
F: (206) 656-0180

Aria C. Branch (PHV 25435-2021)
Jyoti Jasrasaria (PHV 25401-2021)
Spencer W. Klein (PHV 25432-2021)
ELIAS LAW GROUP
10 G St NE, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20002
abbranch@elias.law
jjasrasaria@elias.law
sklein@elias.law
T: (202) 968-4490
F: (202) 968-4498

Donald J. McTigue (0022849)
Counsel of Record
Derek S. Clinger (0092075)
McTIGUE & COLOMBO LLC
545 East Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215
dmctigue@electionlawgroup.com
dclinger@electionlawgroup.com
T: (614) 263-7000
F: (614) 368-6961

Counsel for Bennett Petitioners

Brodi J. Conover (0092082)
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
2 East Mulberry Street
Lebanon, OH 45063
T: (513) 870-6693
bconover@bricker.com

Counsel for Respondent Auditor Keith Faber

C. Benjamin Cooper (0093103)
Charles H. Cooper (0037295)
Chelsea C. Weaver (0096850)
COOPER & ELLIOTT, LLC
305 W. Nationwide Blvd
Columbus Ohio 43215
T: (614) 481-6000
benc@cooperelliott.com
Chipc@cooperelliott.com
Chelseaw@cooperelliott.com

*Counsel for Respondents Senate Minority
Leader Nickie Antonio and House Minority
Leader Allison Russo*

John W. Zeiger (0010707)
Marion H. Little, Jr. (0042679)
Christopher J. Hogan (0079829)
ZEIGER, TIGGES & LITTLE LLP
41 S High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 365-9900
zeiger@litohio.com
little@litohio.com
hogan@litohio.com

*Counsel for Respondent Governor Mike
DeWine*

Peter M. Ellis (0070264)
Counsel of Record
M. Patrick Yingling (PHV 10145-2021)
REED SMITH LLP
10 South Wacker Drive, 40th Floor
Chicago, IL 60606
T: (312) 207-1000
F: (312) 207-6400
pellis@reedsmith.com
mpyingling@reedsmith.com

Brad A. Funari (PHV 3139-2021)
Danielle L. Stewart (0084086)
REED SMITH LLP
225 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
T: 412-288-4583
F: 412-288-3063
bfunari@reedsmith.com
dstewart@reedsmith.com

Brian A. Sutherland (PHV 25406-2021)
REED SMITH LLP
101 Second Street, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94105
T: (415) 543-8700
F: (415) 391-8269
bsutherland@reedsmith.com

Alicia L. Bannon (PHV 25409-2021)
Yuriy Rudensky (PHV 25422-2021)
Michael Li (PHV 25430-2021)
Ethan Herenstein (PHV 25429-2021)
BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE
AT NYU SCHOOL OF LAW
120 Broadway, Suite 1750
New York, NY 10271
T: (646) 292-8310
F: (212) 463-7308
alicia.bannon@nyu.edu

Counsel for Petitioners
Ohio Organizing Collaborative et al.

Erik J. Clark (0078732)
Connor A. Organ (0097995)
ORGAN LAW LLP
1330 Dublin Road
Columbus, Ohio 43215
T: (614) 481-0900
F: (614) 481-0904
ejclark@organlegal.com
corgan@organlegal.com

Counsel for Respondent
Ohio Redistricting Commission

This matter is before the Court on Motions for a Scheduling Order filed September 25, 2023, by the petitioners in the *Bennett* and *Ohio Organizing Collaborative* actions. Respondents Representative LaRe and Senator McColley, members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission and of the Ohio General Assembly, agree with Petitioners that this Court’s review of the Commission’s adopted map and its constitutionality is specifically contemplated by the order of May 25, 2023. *League of Women Voters v. Ohio Redistricting Commission*, 2022-Ohio-1727, ¶6 (“This court retains jurisdiction for the purpose of reviewing the new plan”). They agree as well that such review is important to the people of the State of Ohio, to the State’s Government including its General Assembly, to the redistricting process, and to the credibility of whatever plan determines districts for the next election. Without such review, the 2024 General Assembly election cycle could be delayed, as happened in 2022, or conducted under the same cloud of suspicion that districts were not appropriately drawn as the State experienced in 2022. To avoid those issues, this Court’s review of the next set of maps is particularly important.

Moreover, while the December 20, 2023 filing deadline for next year’s primary¹ is nearing, the Court has sufficient time to conduct a careful and thorough review of the plan. With such timing in mind, Respondents join Petitioners in asking that the Court provide a prompt and expedited schedule for proceedings in this case. The schedule Respondents suggest is as follows:

- The Ohio Redistricting Commission shall file the district plan with the Court no later than 5:00 pm on the day after the Commission adopts such plan;
- Petitioners shall file objections, if any, to the new plan, by 5:00 p.m., seven days after the new plan is filed with the Court; and
- Respondents shall file responses by 5:00 p.m., seven days after any objections are filed.

¹ Because 2024 is a presidential election year, the primary is set for March 19, 2024. The filing deadline is 90 days earlier, R.C. 3513.05, or December 20, 2023.

The 7-day periods obviate the need to address weekends and provide an equal time-period to each side, irrespective of when during the week a filing is made. We also believe that the Court does not need further argument, but that it can proceed directly from the briefing to a decision on the merits.

For those reasons Respondents agree that this Court should enter a scheduling order on slightly different terms from that proposed by Petitioners.

Respectfully submitted this the 26th day of September, 2023.

/s/ william stuart dornette

Dave Yost
Attorney General of Ohio

W. Stuart Dornette (0002955)

dornette@taftlaw.com

Beth A. Bryan (0082076)

bryan@taftlaw.com

Philip D. Williamson (0097174)

pwilliamson@taftlaw.com

TAFT STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER LLP

425 Walnut St., Suite 1800

Cincinnati, OH 45202-3957

T: 513-381-2838

F: 513-381-0205

*Special Counsel for Respondents McColley
and LaRe*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this the 26th day of September, 2023, I have served the foregoing document by email:

Freda J. Levenson (0045916)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
4506 Chester Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
T: (614) 586-1972 x 125
flevenson@acluohio.org

David J. Carey (0088787)
ACLU OF OHIO FOUNDATION, INC.
1108 City Park Avenue, Suite 203
Columbus, OH 43206
T: (614) 586-1972 x2004
dcarey@acluohio.org

Kelsey Miller
Julie A. Ebenstein (PHV 25423-2023)
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
125 Broad Street
New York, NY 10004
T: (212) 519-7866
jebenstein@aclu.org

Robert D. Fram (PHV 25414-2021)
Donald Brown
Joshua González (PHV 25424-2021)
David Denuyl (PHV 25452-2021)
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP
Salesforce Tower
415 Mission Street, Suite 5400
San Francisco, CA 94105-2533
T: (415) 591 6000
rfram@cov.com

Anupam Sharma (PHV 25418-2021)
James Hovard (PHV 25420-2021)
Yale Fu (PHV 25419-2021)
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP
3000 El Camino Real
5 Palo Alto Square, 10th Floor
Palo Alto, CA 94306-2112
T: (650) 632-4700

DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL
Julie M. Pfeiffer
Counsel of Record (0069762)
Jonathan D. Blanton (0070035)
Michael A. Walton (0092201)
Allison D. Daniel (0096186)
30 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 466-2872
F: (614) 728-7592
julie.pfeiffer@ohioago.gov
jonathan.blanton@ohioago.gov
michael.walton@ohioago.gov
michael.hendershot@ohioago.gov

Counsel for Respondents
Secretary of State Frank LaRose and
Auditor Keith Faber

David A. Lockshaw, Jr. (0082403)
Terrence O'Donnell (0074213)
Manuel D. Cardona-Nieves (0098079)
DICKINSON WRIGHT PLLC
180 East Broad Street, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 774-2945
dlockshaw@dickinsonwright.com
todonnell@dickinson-wright.com
mcardona@dickinson-wright.com

Counsel for Respondent Secretary of State
Frank LaRose

Anne Marie Sferra (0030855)
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
100 S. Third St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
T: (614) 227-2300
asferra@bricker.com

asharma@cov.com

Abha Khanna (PHV 2189-2021)
Ben Stafford (PHV 25433-2021)
ELIAS LAW GROUP
1700 Seventh Ave, Suite 2100
Seattle, WA 98101
akhanna@elias.law
bstafford@elias.law
T: (206) 656-0176
F: (206) 656-0180

Aria C. Branch (PHV 25435-2021)
Jyoti Jasrasaria (PHV 25401-2021)
Spencer W. Klein (PHV 25432-2021)
ELIAS LAW GROUP
10 G St NE, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20002
abbranch@elias.law
jjasrasaria@elias.law
sklein@elias.law
T: (202) 968-4490
F: (202) 968-4498

Donald J. McTigue (0022849)
Counsel of Record
Derek S. Clinger (0092075)
McTIGUE & COLOMBO LLC
545 East Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215
dmctigue@electionlawgroup.com
dclinger@electionlawgroup.com
T: (614) 263-7000
F: (614) 368-6961

Counsel for Bennett Petitioners

Brodi J. Conover (0092082)
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
2 East Mulberry Street
Lebanon, OH 45063
T: (513) 870-6693
bconover@bricker.com

Counsel for Respondent Auditor Keith Faber

C. Benjamin Cooper (0093103)
Charles H. Cooper (0037295)
Chelsea C. Weaver (0096850)
COOPER & ELLIOTT, LLC
305 W. Nationwide Blvd
Columbus Ohio 43215
T: (614) 481-6000
benc@cooperelliott.com
Chipc@cooperelliott.com
Chelseaw@cooperelliott.com

*Counsel for Respondents Senate Minority
Leader Nickie Antonio and House Minority
Leader Allison Russo*

John W. Zeiger (0010707)
Marion H. Little, Jr. (0042679)
Christopher J. Hogan (0079829)
ZEIGER, TIGGES & LITTLE LLP
41 S High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
T: (614) 365-9900
zeiger@litohio.com
little@litohio.com
hogan@litohio.com

*Counsel for Respondent Governor Mike
DeWine*

Peter M. Ellis (0070264)
M. Patrick Yingling (PHV 10145-2021)
REED SMITH LLP
10 South Wacker Drive, 40th Floor
Chicago, IL 60606
T: (312) 207-1000
F: (312) 207-6400
pellis@reedsmith.com
mpyingling@reedsmith.com

Brad A. Funari (PHV 3139-2021)
Danielle L. Stewart (0084086)
REED SMITH LLP
225 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
T: 412-288-4583
F: 412-288-3063
bfunari@reedsmith.com
dstewart@reedsmith.com

Brian A. Sutherland (PHV 25406-2021)
REED SMITH LLP
101 Second Street, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94105
T: (415) 543-8700
F: (415) 391-8269
bsutherland@reedsmith.com

Alicia L. Bannon (PHV 25409-2021)
Yurij Rudensky (PHV 25422-2021)
Michael Li (PHV 25430-2021)
Ethan Herenstein (PHV 25429-2021)
BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE
AT NYU SCHOOL OF LAW
120 Broadway, Suite 1750
New York, NY 10271
T: (646) 292-8310
F: (212) 463-7308
alicia.bannon@nyu.edu

*Counsel for Petitioners The
Ohio Organizing Collaborative et al.*

Erik J. Clark (0078732)
Connor A. Organ (0097995)
ORGAN LAW LLP
1330 Dublin Road
Columbus, Ohio 43215
T: (614) 481-0900
F: (614) 481-0904
ejclark@organlegal.com
corgan@organlegal.com

*Counsel for Respondent
Ohio Redistricting Commission*

/s/ william stuart dornette
W. Stuart Dornette