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9 *Counsel for Plaintiffs*

10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

12 JILL STOKKE, an individual, CHRIS)
13 PRUDHOME, MARCHANT FOR)
14 CONGRESS, RODIMER FOR)
15 CONGRESS, an individual,)

Case No.

Plaintiffs,

COMPLAINT

v.

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA)
CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity, and)
CLARK COUNTY REGISTRAR OF)
VOTERS JOSEPH P. GLORIA, in his)
official capacity,)

Defendants.

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18 Plaintiffs Jill Stokke, Chris Prudhome, Marchant for Congress, and Rodimer for Congress
19 through their undersigned counsel, bring this action against: Defendant Secretary of State Barbara K.
20 Cegavske and the Clark County Registrar of Voters Joe P. Gloria. All persons named as defendants
21 are sued exclusively in their official capacities. Plaintiffs allege as follows:

22 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

23 1. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331,
24 because this case arises under the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and 28
25 U.S.C. § 1367 because the claims based on state law are so related to the federal questions as to form
26 part of the same case or controversy. This Court also has jurisdiction to grant both declaratory and
27 injunctive relief under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

1 2. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), because a substantial part of
2 the events giving rise to this action arose in this district.

3 **PARTIES**

4 3. Plaintiff Jill Stokke is a duly qualified and properly registered voter who has
5 attempted to vote in the November 3, 2020 general election (the “Election”).

6 4. Chris Prudhome is a credentialed member of the media who, as a member of the
7 media, attempted to observe the counting of ballots in the Election in Clark County.

8 5. Marchant for Congress is the official candidate committee for James Marchant, a
9 candidate for U.S. Congress for Nevada’s Fourth Congressional District.

10 6. Rodimer for Congress is the official candidate committee for Daniel Rodimer, a
11 candidate for U.S. Congress for Nevada’s Third Congressional District.

12 7. Defendant Barbara K. Cegavske is the Secretary of State of Nevada. Pursuant to Nev.
13 Rev. Stat. § 293.124(1), she serves as the “Chief Officer of Elections for this state,” and “is
14 responsible for the execution and enforcement of the provisions of Title 24 of NRS and all other
15 provisions of state and federal law relating to elections in this state.”

16 8. Defendant Joe P. Gloria is the Clark County Registrar of Voters and is responsible for
17 appointment and oversight of local election boards for the various precincts and districts in Clark
18 County, Nevada. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 293.217(1).

19 **DEFENDANTS’ ILLEGAL CONDUCT**

20 9. The Election is currently in progress.

21 10. NRS 293.8874(1), as enacted in Assembly Bill 4, Sec. 4, 32nd Special Session (Nev.
22 2020), requires “the clerk or an employee in the office of the county clerk shall check the signature
23 used for the mail ballot in accordance with” detailed procedures.¹

24
25 ¹ The use of the word “shall” in a statute imposes a mandatory duty. *Kingdomware Technologies,*
26 *Inc.*, 136 S.Ct. 1969, 195 L.Ed 2d 334 (2016) *See United States ex rel. Siegel v. Thoman*, 156 U.S.
27 353, 359–360, 15 S.Ct. 378, 39 L.Ed. 450 (1895)””When a statute distinguishes between ‘may’ and
28 ‘shall,’ it is generally clear that ‘shall’ imposes a mandatory duty.”)

1 11. Irregularities have plagued the election in Clark County, including lax procedures for
2 authenticating mail ballots and over 3,000 instances of ineligible individuals casting ballots. Ballots
3 have even been cast on behalf of deceased voters. Moreover, the public has often been prohibited
4 from observing the processing of mail ballots, resulting in much of their work being done in the
5 shadows without public accountability.

6 12. On November 3, 2020, Plaintiff Stokke attempted to vote in person in Clark County.
7 She was not allowed to vote because, according to election officials, she had already cast a mail
8 ballot. Plaintiff Stokke had not, in fact, cast any such mail ballot.

9 13. On information and belief, it was Clark County’s use of Agilis signature-verification
10 software that allowed Plaintiff Stokke’s ballot, which she had not signed, to be accepted and counted
11 in the Election.

12 14. Further, Defendant Gloria is using the Agilis signature-verification software in a
13 manner which is contrary to the manufacturer’s prescriptions. Specifically, the manufacture requires
14 that signatures be scanned with a resolution of at least 200 D.P.I. Nevertheless, Mr. Gloria has
15 consistently used signature files from the DMV which are all scanned at less than 200 D.P.I.,
16 resulting in the Agilis machine being unable to perform its required function (i.e. verifying
17 signatures).

18 15. Clark County is the only county in Nevada that uses the Agilis system and the only
19 county in Nevada that does not verify signatures on absentee and mail in ballots in person.

20 16. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 293.8881, as enacted in Assembly Bill 4, Sec. 4, 32nd Special
21 Session (Nev. 2020) provides, “For any affected election, the mail ballot central counting board may
22 begin counting the received mail ballots 15 days before the day of the election. The board must
23 complete the count of all mail ballots on or before the ninth day following the election. The counting
24 procedure must be public.”

25 17. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 293.363 provides that for in-person ballots, “[w]hen the polls are
26 closed, the counting board shall prepare to count the ballots voted. The counting procedure must be
27 public and continue without adjournment until completed.”

1 18. On November 4, 2020, at approximately 12:45 a.m., Plaintiff Prudhome tried to
2 observe ballot counting at the Clark County Election office located at 965 Trade Drive, Las Vegas,
3 Nevada 89030. Election officials tried to deny him entry to the office. A few minutes later,
4 Defendant Gloria told Plaintiff Prudhome counting was complete for the evening and instructed him
5 to leave. Moreover, while Plaintiff Prudhome was allowed to observe, the screens through which he
6 would have watched were all turned off and faced away from him. When Plaintiff Prudhome
7 inquired into these conditions, election officials asked law enforcement to remove him from the
8 building.

9 **Count I: VIOLATIONS OF THE ELECTIONS CLAUSE**

10 19. Plaintiffs fully incorporate the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 15 above as if fully
11 set forth herein.

12 20. Section 4 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution provides, “The Times, Places and
13 Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by
14 the Legislature thereof”

15 21. Defendants have violated the Elections Clause by usurping the Nevada Legislature’s
16 constitutional authority to set the manner of elections. In particular, by using the Agilis software
17 system. No other county in Nevada uses this system, and accordingly, voters in Clark County, in
18 including Plaintiff Stokke, are at an unequal risk of having their legal votes diluted by votes with
19 mismatched signatures.

20 22. There is no legitimate state interest that justifies this disparity in any way.

21 23. As part of the Voter’s Bill of Rights, codified at Nev. Rev. Stat. § 293.2546, the
22 Nevada Legislature declared that each voter has the right to a “uniform, statewide standard for
23 counting and recounting all votes accurately. NRS 293.2546(1).

24 **Count II: Equal Protection**

25 24. Plaintiffs fully incorporate the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 18 above as if fully
26 set forth herein.

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1 25. The Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution prohibits states from denying
2 “to any person . . . the equal protection of the laws.” U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1. Plaintiffs’ equal
3 protection rights are enforceable pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1983.

4 26. Defendants have violated the Equal Protection Clause by attempting to match
5 signatures in Clark County using the Agilis system and thereafter, not having the clerk or employee
6 of the clerk’s office verify the signature.

7 27. No other county in Nevada uses this system, and accordingly, voters in Clark County,
8 including Plaintiff Stokke, are at an unequal risk of having their legal votes diluted by votes with
9 mismatched signatures.

10 28. There is no legitimate state interest that justifies this disparity in any way and such
11 disparity violates Nevada voters’ right to have uniform, statewide standard of counting and
12 recounting all votes accurately.

13 **Count III: Violation of Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 293.8881 and 293.363**

14 29. Plaintiffs fully incorporate the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 21 above as if fully
15 set forth herein.

16 30. Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 293.8881 and 293.363 require Defendants to allow public access to
17 ballot-counting. Through the above-described conduct, Defendants deprived Plaintiff Prudhome any
18 meaningful access to ballot-counting.

19 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

20 WHEREFORE Plaintiffs respectfully pray for the following relief:

21 1. An Injunction directing Defendants and their officers, agents, employees, attorneys, and any
22 other person acting under their direction or control to cease the use of the Agilis system to count
23 ballots in Clark County;

24 2. Injunctive relief directing Defendants that the Agilis system is improper and that each mail
25 ballot shall and must be checked by the clerk or an employee of the office of the clerk before it can
26 be verified as a valid ballot for counting.

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1 3. For injunctive relief directing Defendants and their officers, agents, employees and any other
2 person acting under their direction or control to allow meaningful access to the ballot counting
3 process.

4 4. For declaratory judgment that Defendants have violated NRS 293.8874 passed by the Nevada
5 Legislature in 2020.

6 5. A declaratory judgment that Defendants have violated the Elections and Equal Protection
7 Clauses and Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 293.8881 and 293.363;

8 6. Attorney’s fees and costs pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1988; and

9 7. All other relief that this honorable Court deems just and proper.

10 DATED: November 5, 2020

THE O’MARA LAW FIRM, P.C.

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/s/ David C. O’Mara

DAVID C. O’MARA, ESQ

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311 East Liberty St.
Reno, Nevada 89501
775-323-1321
775-323-4082 (fax)
Counsel for Plaintiff

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CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

JILL STOKKE, CHRIS PRUDHOME, MARCHANT FOR CONGRESS, RODIMER FOR CONGRESS

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff

(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

THE O'MARA LAW FIRM, P.C., David C. O'Mara, Esq., 311 E. Liberty Street, Reno, Nevada 89501 775.323.1321

DEFENDANTS

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her official capacity, CLARK COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS JOSEPH P. GLORIA, in his official capacity, et al.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant

(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff, 2 U.S. Government Defendant, 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party), 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

Table with columns for Plaintiff (PTF) and Defendant (DEF) citizenship and business location (Citizen of This State, Citizen of Another State, Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country, Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State, Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State, Foreign Nation).

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.

Large table with categories: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, CIVIL RIGHTS, TORTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES.

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 Original Proceeding, 2 Removed from State Court, 3 Remanded from Appellate Court, 4 Reinstated or Reopened, 5 Transferred from Another District (specify), 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer, 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 28 USC § 1331; 28 USC § 1367; 18 USC § 1983, 1988. Brief description of cause: violation of the elections clause, equal protection, and Nevada Revised Statutes.

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER

DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

11/05/2020 /s/ David C. O'Mara

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Nevada

JILL STOKKE, CHRIS PRUDHOME, MARCHANT
FOR CONGRESS, RODIMER FOR CONGRESS

Plaintiff(s)

v.

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in
her official capacity, CLARK COUNTY REGISTRAR
OF VOTERS JOSEPH P. GLORIA, in his official
capacity, et al.

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) Joseph P. Gloria, in his official capacity as Clark County Registrar of Voters
Clark County Election Department
965 Trade Drive, Ste A,
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you
are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ.
P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of
the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
whose name and address are: The O'Mara Law Firm, P.C.
311 East Liberty Street,
Reno, Nevada 89501

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. _____

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* _____
was received by me on *(date)* _____.

I personally served the summons on the individual at *(place)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with *(name)* _____
_____, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,
on *(date)* _____, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* _____, who is
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because _____; or

Other *(specify)*:

My fees are \$ _____ for travel and \$ _____ for services, for a total of \$ _____ 0.00 _____.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: _____

Server's signature

Printed name and title

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Nevada

JILL STOKKE, CHRIS PRUDHOME, MARCHANT
FOR CONGRESS, RODIMER FOR CONGRESS

Plaintiff(s)

v.

SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in
her official capacity, CLARK COUNTY REGISTRAR
OF VOTERS JOSEPH P. GLORIA, in his official
capacity, et al.

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) Barbara Cegavske, in her official capacity as Nevada Secretary of State
101 North Carson Street, Ste 3
Carson City, NV 89701

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you
are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ.
P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of
the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
whose name and address are: The O'Mara Law Firm, P.C.
311 East Liberty Street,
Reno, Nevada 89501

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Civil Action No. _____

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* _____
was received by me on *(date)* _____ .

I personally served the summons on the individual at *(place)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____ ; or

I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with *(name)* _____
_____, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,
on *(date)* _____ , and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* _____ , who is
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____ ; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because _____ ; or

Other *(specify)*: _____

My fees are \$ _____ for travel and \$ _____ for services, for a total of \$ _____ 0.00 _____ .

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: _____

Server's signature

Printed name and title

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc: