

**IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Charlene DAVID, *et al*,  
*Petitioners*,

v.

Leigh CHAPMAN and Jessica MATHIS,  
*Respondents*.

No. 22 MD 2022

**ELECTION MATTER**

**REQUEST FOR STATUS CONFERENCE**

Given the imminence of relevant election-related deadlines, Petitioners request that this Court convene a prompt status conference for the scheduling and resolution of this matter. It is crucial that this matter be resolved with finality, including any necessary appeal, before the circulation of nomination petitions for state legislative candidates is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, February 15.

As the petition itself sets forth, it is unavoidable that the first date on which the LRC Final Plan could have the full force of law now falls at least 12 days after the date on which the circulation of nomination petitions is scheduled to begin. While the LRC may still adopt its Final Plan this week, there is no public announcement of its next meeting yet.

In the meantime, the setting of these dates as to nomination petitions for Congressional candidates is being litigated in a consolidated pair of parallel cases before the Commonwealth Court, Carter v Chapman and Gressman v. Chapman, 464 MD 2021 and 465 MD 2021, respectively. In that litigation, Judge McCullough has scheduled a hearing for this Thursday and Friday for the primary purpose of


hearing argument as to competing proposed Congressional maps the Court may be required to adopt because of political impasse; secondarily, “The Court will also consider revisions to the 2022 election schedule/calendar as part of the hearing.” Id., Order of January 14, 2022, at ¶ 11.

It is therefore not only conceivable but highly possible that the judges of this Commonwealth Court could order asynchronous calendars for the circulation of nomination petitions for Congressional candidates in the Carter litigation and for State Legislative candidates via the instant matter, while a third set of deadlines (the original, statutory set) remains in place for candidates for Governor and the United States Senate. Unless this matter moves with urgency, it may prove impossible to have a single decision reconciling these schedules to the extent that the state constitution and sound election administration so warrant.

Therefore, Petitioners request that this Court convene a status conference to set forth a schedule for all necessary actions to take place to resolve this matter.

The undersigned has discussed this request with opposing counsel, and opposing counsel consents to the request for a prompt status conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 26, 2022