NO.	
110.	

2021 ANURY DEMANDED

SENFRONIA THOMPSON TREY MARTINEZ FISCHER GENE WU **VIKKI GOODWIN** RON REYNOLDS **FDDIE RODRIGUEZ** JON ROSENTHAL JASMINE CROCKETT **MARY ANN PEREZ** ALMA A. ALLEN **CHRISTINA MORALES** NICOLE COLLIER CELIA ISRAEL **ANA-MARIA RAMOS** BARBARA GERVIN-HAWKINS TERRY MEZA DONNA HOWARD JARVIS JOHNSON RAY LOPEZ SHAWN THIERRY **ELIZABETH CAMPOS GINA HINOJOSA** 

1:21CV0690 RP

Plaintiffs,

v.

GREGORY WAYNE ABBOTT, DADE PHELAN, AND JAMES WHITE

Defendants

COMPLAINT

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE AND JURY:

# I. INTRODUCTION:

- 1. Plaintiffs will show that Defendants Abbot, Phelan, and White have embarked upon a course of conduct which is intended to violate State and Federal Constitutional Rights of the Plaintiffs and the classes of citizens they represent by denying rights under the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution because of
  - (a) Race, in that certain Plaintiffs are either black or white,
  - (b) Creed, in that certain Plaintiffs have expressed a faith or belief that every eligible citizen has the right to vote,
  - (c) Color, in that certain Plaintiffs are distinguishable based upon the melanin in their skin, and
  - (d) Natural origin, in that certain Plaintiffs are descendants of persons born in other countries.
- 2. (a) Plaintiff, Senfronia Thompson is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (b) Plaintiff, Trey Martinez Fischer is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
  - (c) Plaintiff, Gene Wu is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (d) Plaintiff, Vikki Goodwin is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
  - (e) Plaintiff, Rom Reynolds is a resident of Fort Bend County, Texas.
  - (f) Plaintiff, Eddie Rodriguez is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
  - (g) Plaintiff, Jon Rosenthal is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (h) Plaintiff, Jasmine Crockett is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
  - (i) Plaintiff, Mary Ann Perez is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (i) Plaintiff, Alma A. Allen is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (k) Plaintiff, Christina Morales is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (l) Plaintiff, Nicole Collier is a resident of Tarrant County, Texas.
  - (m) Plaintiff, Celia Israel is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
  - (n) Plaintiff, Ana-Maria Ramos is a resident of Tarrant County, Texas.

- (o) Plaintiff, Barbara Gervin-Hawkins is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
- (p) Plaintiff, Terry Meza is a resident of Dallas County, Texas.
- (q) Plaintiff, Donna Howard is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- (r) Plaintiff, Jarvis Johnson is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (s) Plaintiff, Ray Lopez is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
- (t) Plaintiff, Shawn Thierry is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (u) Plaintiff, Elizabeth Campos is resident of Bexar County, Texas, and
- (v) Plaintiff, Gina Hinojosa is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- 3. Plaintiffs re victims of a discriminatory scheme to violate their Constitutional Right to Assemble to redress grievances; speak; vote; travel, persuade members of the Congress of the United States to help support them in their quest to obtain and maintain all of the rights guaranteed to them and their constituents and the class they represent. All because of their protected status.
- 4. This suit arises out of deliberate acts of status discrimination, as well as discriminatory policies, customs, and practices, perpetrated by Defendants against Plaintiffs and the putative class, that have disparately impacted all persons of each individual Plaintiff's status group. The claims in this suit also include damages resulting from actions taken against Plaintiff's because of their status.
- Defendants collectively acted in concert with one another under color of law to cause the harm and damages alleged in this suit. Defendants' conduct violates the rights protected in 42U.S.C.§1981 and Plaintiffs' First Amendment right to petition government because Defendants' pervasive, systematic, and widespread acts custom and practices of status discrimination are continuing against putative class members. Plaintiffs include a request for class certification on behalf of others similarly situated. Some Plaintiffs also individually complain about retaliatory acts, threats, and attempts at coercion relating to the exercise of their First Amendment rights which are enforceable under 42U.S.C.§1983.

## II. PARTIES

- 6. (a) Plaintiff, Senfronia Thompson is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (b) Plaintiff, Trey Martinez Fischer is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
  - (c) Plaintiff, Gene Wu is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
  - (d) Plaintiff, Vikki Goodwin is a resident of Travis County, Texas.

- (e) Plaintiff, Ron Reynolds is a resident of Fort Bend County, Texas.
- (f) Plaintiff, Eddie Rodriguez is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- (g) Plaintiff, Jon Rosenthal is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (h) Plaintiff, Jasmine Crockett is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- (i) Plaintiff, Mary Ann Perez is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (i) Plaintiff, Alma A. Allen is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (k) Plaintiff, Christina Morales is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (1) Plaintiff, Nicole Collier is a resident of Tarrant County, Texas.
- (m) Plaintiff, Celia Israel is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- (n) Plaintiff, Ana-Maria Ramos is a resident of Tarrant County, Texas.
- (o) Plaintiff, Barbara Gervin-Hawkins is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
- (p) Plaintiff, Terry Meza is a resident of Dallas County, Texas.
- (q) Plaintiff, Donna Howard is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- (r) Plaintiff, Jarvis Johnson is a resident of Harris County, Texas.
- (s) Plaintiff, Ray Lopez is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
- (t) Plaintiff, Shawn Thienry is a resident of Hamis County, Texas.
- (u) Plaintiff, Elizabeth Campos is a resident of Bexar County, Texas.
- (v) Plaintiff, Gina Hinojosa is a resident of Travis County, Texas.
- 7. Defendant, Gregory Wayne Abbott is a public servant and the duly-elected Governor of the State of Texas, a resident of Texas who lives in Travis County, Texas. Service of process is required.
- 8. Defendant, Dade Phelan is a public servant and duly-elected Member of the Texas House of Representatives who was elected Speaker of The House and is a resident of Texas who lives in Jefferson County, Texas. Service of process is required.
- 9. Defendant, James White is a public servant and duly-elected Member of the Texas House of Representative, a resident of Texas who lives in Tyler County, Texas. Service of process is required.

#### III.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 10. This action arises under Title 42 of the U.S. Code, Sections 1343, 1983, 1985 and 1988 and this Court has jurisdiction of the action under Title 28 of the U.S. Code, Sections 1331, 1332 and 1343.
- 11. At all times pertinent to this complaint, the Defendant Gregory Wayne Abbott, was the Governor of The State of Texas, the Defendant Dade Phelan was a Member of the Texas House of Representative, and Speaker of The House of Representatives, and Defendant James White was a Member of the Texas House of Representative, and in doing the acts and things hereinafter set forth, said Defendants were acting in their respective capacities as stated, under color of State Law.
- 12. Plaintiffs, and the classes they represent are white, black, Asian, Hispanic, gay, and all subscribe to the creed and belief that all citizens who are otherwise eligible should be allowed to register and vote in all elections.
- Defendants, individually and collectively, have embarked upon a course of action, scheme, conspiracy, and course of conduct, by public statements and otherwise to attempt to deny, coerce, threaten, intimidate and prevent Plaintiffs and the members of the classes Plaintiffs:
  - (1) the right to vote in all elections,
  - (2) the right to peacefully assemble to redress their grievances,
  - (3) the right to speak publicly about the exercise of their constitutional rights,
  - (4) the right of association,
  - (5) the right to security of person, and
    - (6) the right to freedom from arrest, except upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.
- 14. Plaintiffs allege that in doing the acts and things complained of, the Defendants were conspirator engaged in a scheme and conspiracy designed and intended to deny and deprive them of rights guaranteed to them under the Constitution and laws of the United States and particularly those herein above enumerated.
- Plaintiffs allege that, as a direct consequence and result of the acts of Defendants herein above complained of, Plaintiffs have been deprived of liberty for substantial periods of time, suffered much anxiety and distress over the separation from their families, and much discomfort and embarrassment and their reputations impaired, and have lost much time from their homes and the companionship and care of their families and have been required to spend substantial sums of money and of time traveling to and from the State of Texas to persuade Congress to pass laws to ameliorate the harm done and redress their grievances.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs claim damages of the Defendants in the amount of Five Dollars (\$5.00) in actual damages to themselves and the classes they represent and Ten Dollars (\$10.00) in punitive damages to themselves and the classes they represent.

Plaintiffs allege that because of the foregoing, it was necessary to obtain, seek, and employ legal connsol to seek redress under the Civil Rights Attorney Fees Act.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray that this Honorable Court

- 1. Advance this cause on the Docket.
- 2. Grant a temporary restraining order
- 3. Order a Hearing on their request for a Temporary Injunction
- 4. Grant Temporary Injunction after hearing evidence on the Motion.
- 5. Enjoin the Defendants from doing any act which does or violates Plaintiffs' Constitutional Rights.
- 6. Grant Plaintiffs reasonable attorney fees,
- 7. Grant Plaintiffs actual and punitive damages, and
- 8. Such other and further relief additional, alternative, and equitable relief as may appear to the Court to which they may be entitled and just.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

THE CRAIG ANTHONY WASHINGTON LAW FIRM ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS SBOT# 20901000 P.O. BOX 306 BASTROP, TEXAS

OF COUNSEL;
DEGUREN & DICKSON
1018 PRESTON AVENUE
SEVENTH FLOOR
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JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

### **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	<u></u>		DEFENDANTS			
Senfronia Thompson et al			Abbott et al	Abbott et al		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff			County of Residence	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant		
` '	CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	SES)	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Number	)	Attorneys (If Known)	21 CV 069	00 RP	
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES		
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Vot a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only) P1 Citizen of This State			
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 G 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT					of Suit Code Descriptions.	
CONTRACT	1	RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY		OTHER STATUTES	
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment ∞ Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise    REAL PROPERTY   □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJUR  365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Product Liability Product Liability Product Liability Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability  PRISONER PETITIO Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Oth 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of	of Property 21 USC 881  690 Other  LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act  IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC □ 3729(a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and □ Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ □ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information □ Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure □ Act/Review or Appeal of □ Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of □ State Statutes	
	moved from	Appellate Court	Reopened Anothe (specify)			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	42:1983 (	Civil Rights Act	are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional sta	tutes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	if demanded in complaint: : X Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CAS	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE		SIGNATURE OF AT	ITORNEY OF RECORD			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY 100040238 RECEIPT# A	MOUNT \$402.00	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	Pitman MAG. JUI	DGE	

#### DUPLICATE

Court Name: TEXAS WESTERN

Division: 1

Receipt Number: 100040238

Cashier ID: cjames

Transaction Date: 08/06/2021 Payer Name: CRAIG A. WASHINGTON

CIVIL FILING FEE- NON-PRISONER For: CRAIG A. WASHINGTON

Amount: \$402.00

PAPER CHECK

Check/Money Order Num: 260 Amt Tendered: \$402.00

Total Due:

\$402.00

Total Tendered: \$402.00 Change Amt: \$0.00

1:21-CV-690-RP; THOMPSON ET AL V. ABBOTT ET AL; CIVIL FILING FEE