

The Next Target of Leonard Leo's Dark Money Behemoth: Free and Fair Elections

SUMMARY: *New research shows right-wing activist Leonard Leo's fingerprints on a multi-pronged effort to undermine voting rights and advance voting restrictions on the state and federal levels through his dark money group, Honest Elections Project.*

The Honest Elections Project, a [registered alias](#) for the Leo-tied 85 Fund, has been heavily active in defending and expanding state voter restrictions, filing at least a dozen amicus briefs in multiple states like Arizona, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

Last year, Honest Elections Project went on the record [defending](#) the [extreme](#) independent state legislature theory and illegal gerrymandering proposed in [Moore v. Harper](#), a Supreme Court case called a "grave threat to US democracy."

Additionally, Honest Election Project Executive Director Jason Snead, who has no legal training, lobbied state officials to institute voter ID laws, launch investigations into voter fraud and election workers, and allow the Legislature to override judicial rulings related to elections.

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Right-Wing Activist Leonard Leo—Who President Biden Has Called “A Serious Problem Facing Our Democracy”—Is Using His Dark Money Conservative Group To Suppress The Right To Vote

Conservative Activist Leonard Leo Has Built An “Ambitious Coalition” Of Right-Wing Groups To Push A “Broad Array Of Hot-Button Conservative Causes”— Including Election Denialism, Even Though Leo Has Publicly “Steered Clear” Of Trump’s Big Lie.

Conservative Activist Leonard Leo Has Built An “Ambitious Coalition” Of Various Right-Wing Organizations Active Against Critical Race Theory, “Woke Politicians,” Gender Identities, And Election Protections. “Millions of dollars in television advertisements blasting schools for teaching critical race theory and assailing corporations like BlackRock, Uber and American Airlines for catering to ‘woke politicians.’ A lawsuit pending before the Supreme Court to radically reshape how federal elections are conducted. Complaints against President Biden for violating election law and against school districts that allow information to be withheld from parents about children’s gender identities. These initiatives were advanced in the past year or so by a handful of new or reconfigured conservative groups — each with their own leadership and mission. Behind the scenes, though, these groups have something in common: They are part of an ambitious coalition developed in recent years by the conservative activist Leonard A. Leo, who until now has been best known for his role in pushing the appointments of conservative judges to the center of the Republican Party’s agenda.” [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

Leo's Network Has Given Him "Extraordinary Influence As He Pushes A Broad Array Of Hot-Button Conservative Causes." "An investigation by The New York Times of Mr. Leo's activities reveals new details of how he has built that network, with relatively little public attention, into one of the best-funded and most sophisticated operations in American politics, giving him extraordinary influence as he pushes a broad array of hot-button conservative causes and seeks to counter what he sees as an increasing leftward tilt in society." [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

This Coalition Has Been Backed "An Opaque, Sprawling Network Shaped By Mr. Leo" And Funded By Dark Money. "Most of the initiatives were financially supported, or in some cases launched, by an opaque, sprawling network shaped by Mr. Leo and funded by wealthy patrons, usually through anonymous donations that critics call 'dark money.'" [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

Despite Leo's Prominence In The Conservative Movement, He Has Publicly "Steered Clear" Of Trump's Claims That The 2020 Election Was Stolen. "While his efforts to put conservatives on the courts found a powerful ally in President Donald J. Trump, Mr. Leo, an Ivy League-educated lawyer, has steered clear of the most virulent strains of Mr. Trump's right-wing populism, as well as his baseless claims that the 2020 election was stolen from him, and he has navigated past most of the fissures in the Republican Party." [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

President Biden Has Singled Out Leonard Leo As "A Serious Problem Facing Our Democracy," Whose Network Now Has Access To An Unprecedented \$1.6 Billion In Dark Money After Successfully Working To Overturn Roe W. Wade.

While Calling For Increased Dark Money Disclosure, President Biden Has Singled Out Leonard Leo As "A Serious Problem Facing Our Democracy" Wherein Money 'Flows In The Shadows To Influence Our Elections.' "In calling for Senate passage of legislation to increase disclosure of dark money spending, Mr. Biden singled out Mr. Leo last month as the personification of 'a serious problem facing our democracy' wherein money 'flows in the shadows to influence our elections.'" [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

Biden Said Leo, After "Decades Of Successfully Working To Overturn Roe V. Wade, Now Has "Access To \$1.6 Billion In Dark Money To Do More Damage." "Without naming Mr. Leo, the president referred to 'a conservative activist who spent, as was his right, decades working to put enough conservative justices on the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade' and who 'now has access to \$1.6 billion in dark money to do more damage and — from our perspective — and restrict more freedoms.'" [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

- **Leonard Leo's Network Received An "Extraordinary" \$1.6 Billion Donation From Barre Seid, An "Electronics Manufacturing Mogul."** "A new conservative nonprofit group scored a \$1.6 billion windfall last year via a little-known donor — an extraordinary sum that could give Republicans and their causes a huge financial boost ahead of the midterms, and for years to come. The source of the money was Barre Seid, an electronics manufacturing mogul, and the donation is among the largest — if not the largest — single contributions ever made to a politically focused nonprofit. The beneficiary is a new political group controlled by Leonard A. Leo, an activist who has used his connections to Republican donors and politicians to help engineer the conservative dominance of the Supreme Court and to finance battles over abortion rights, voting rules and climate change policy." [The New York Times, [02/01/22](#)]

The Honest Elections Project, A Registered Alias For The Leo-Tied 85 Fund, Has Been Heavily Active In Defending State Voter Restrictions, Filing At Least A Dozen Amicus Briefs In Multiple States, Defending The Extreme Independent State Legislature Theory And Illegal Gerrymandering In Moore V. Harper, And Testifying In Support Of Various State Voting Restrictions.

The Honest Elections Project, A Partner Of The Election Transparency Initiative, Is Tied To Leo, Has Been A Registered Alias For The Leo-Tied 85 Fund, And Announced That It Would Direct Seven-Figure Sums To State Legislative And Secretary Of State Primary Races.

One Of The Election Transparency Initiative's Two Partner Organizations Is The Honest Elections Project:

Partner Organizations

Bookmark these websites of other organizations that are campaigning for election transparency



[Election Transparency Initiative, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

The Honest Elections Project Has “Ties To Leonard Leo,” Was Reportedly “Set Up By” Leo, And The Group Has Been A Registered Alias For The Leo-Tied 85 Fund. “The group calls itself the Honest Elections Project, which since 2020, according to corporate records filed in Virginia, has been a registered business alias for The 85 Fund. That organization has federal tax-exempt status, millions of dollars in donations and spending that are hard to trace, and ties to Leonard Leo — the Federalist Society's co-chairman and former executive vice president who helped build the Supreme Court's majority of conservative justices.” [NPR, [08/12/22](#)]

- **The Honest Elections Project Was Reportedly “Set Up By” Leonard Leo.** “The Honest Elections Project, which was set up by Federalist Society Vice Chair Leonard Leo, issued a dramatic statement claiming, ‘Nearly every single policy in H.R. 1 is designed to make our elections less secure, create more confusion, invite more uncertainty, and cause greater division in this country.’” [Truthout, [03/26/21](#)]

May 2022: The Election Transparency Initiative Announced That It Would “Direct Multiple Seven Figures Toward Targeted State Legislative And SOS Primaries.” “Group will direct multiple seven figures toward targeted state legislative and SoS primaries, helping advance secure, transparent & accountable elections voters can trust” [Election Transparency Initiative, [05/10/22](#)]

The Leo-Tied Honest Elections Project Has Claimed That Its Executive Director Jason Snead Was Its “Founder,” But Close Leo Adviser Gary Marx Signed A Filing To Let The 85 Fund Operate Under The Honest Election Project’s Name And Snead Does Not Appear As A Director Or Officer For Either Group.

The Honest Elections Project Claims That The Legitimacy Of Elections Is “Under Attack,” Pointing To Voter Fraud And “Corruption.” “Elections are the cornerstone of democracy, but their legitimacy is under

attack. Election laws that protect against fraud and corruption are being challenged in court and denigrated in public.” [Honest Elections Project, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

The Honest Elections Project’s Executive Director Is Jason Snead, Who “Spent 10 Years At The Heritage Foundation.” “Jason Snead is the executive director of the Honest Elections Project. Prior to heading the project, Jason spent 10 years at The Heritage Foundation, where he had the honor to work for former Attorney General Ed Meese.” [Honest Elections Project, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

While At The Heritage Foundation, Snead “Managed The Development Of The Heritage Election Fraud Database, A Tool That Aggregates Instances Of Voter Fraud From Across The Country.” “Jason Snead: Jason Snead is the Executive Director of the Honest Elections Project, a nonprofit nonpartisan organization dedicated to ensuring that every lawful voter can participate in free and fair elections. Previously, he worked as a senior analyst at the Heritage Foundation, where he managed the development of the Heritage Election Fraud Database, a tool that aggregates instances of voter fraud from across the country. Jason holds a Bachelor’s degree from Bowling Green University and a Master’s in Public Policy from George Mason University.” [Wisconsin Office of the Assembly Public Records Request, [12/14/21](#)]

Snead Had Repeatedly Co-Written Articles About Voter Fraud In Conservative Outlets:

- **National Review Headline: No, Election Fraud Is Not as Unlikely as a Lightning Strike** [National Review, [11/03/16](#)]
- **National Review Headline: Texas Wins Dogged Fight for Voter ID** [National Review, [05/02/18](#)]
- **Daily Signal Headline: Supreme Court Gives States the Green Light to Clean Up Voter Rolls** [The Daily Signal, [06/11/18](#)]
- **Daily Signal Headline: Election Fraud Doesn’t Exist Until Liberals Want It to Exist** [The Daily Signal, [12/06/18](#)]
- **Daily Signal Headline: North Carolina Election Fraud Should Be a Wake-Up Call for the Left** [The Daily Signal, [03/05/19](#)]

The Honest Elections Project Has Referred To Jason Snead As Its “Founder”:



Honest Elections Project
@honestelections

...

Wisconsin has become ground zero for litigation that seeks to use a public health crisis to accomplish a long-running political goal: invalidating crucial voter-integrity laws.

Read our founder, [@JasonWSnead](#)’s full statement



honestelections.org
Honest Elections Project filed a brief in federal court def...
The Honest Elections Project filed a brief in federal court defending the state of Wisconsin’s duly enacted election...

10:02 AM · Mar 31, 2020

[Tweet by Honest Elections Project, 03/31/20, accessed [03/31/21](#)]

February 7, 2020: 85 Fund Director Gary Marx Signed A Fictitious Name Certificate To Authorize The Group To Operate At The Honest Elections Project:

Fictitious Name - Fictitious Name Certificate		
Entity Information		
Entity Name:	The 85 Fund	Entity Type: Nonstock Corporation
Fictitious Name		
Fictitious Name: Honest Elections Project		
Signature Information		
Date Signed: 02/07/2020		
Printed Name	Signature	Title
Gary Marx	Gary Marx	Director

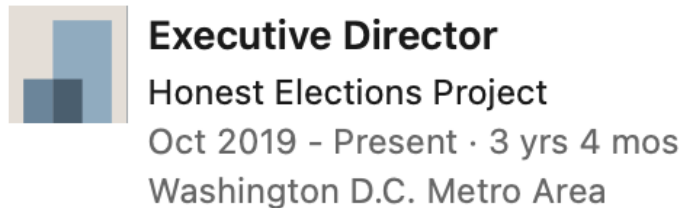
[Filing Number 200207323507, Virginia State Corporation Commission, [02/07/20](#)]

Gary Marx, A Senior Adviser To The Leo-Tied Judicial Crisis Network, Led “The Two Main Tax-Exempt Groups In Leo’s New Network” He Established In 2020. “There was also Gary Marx, a political strategist and Judicial Crisis Network senior adviser, who worked to build support in key states. Marx now leads the two main tax-exempt groups in Leo’s new network, corporation filings show.” [NBC News, [11/01/20](#)]

Jason Snead Does Not Appear As A Director, Officer, Or Member For The 85 Fund, The Group Behind The Honest Elections Project. [Virginia State Corporation Commission, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

The Same Month That Snead Started Working For The Honest Elections Project He Formed Jason W. Snead LLC, Appearing To Use The Same Nonprofit-To-Private Consulting Firm Payment Scheme That Has Personally Enriched Leonard Leo.

According To His LinkedIn Profile, Jason Snead Started Working For The Elections Project In October 2019:



[Jason Snead LinkedIn Profile, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

October 2019: Jason W. Snead Formed Jason W. Snead LLC. [Virginia State Corporation Commission, accessed [01/31/23](#)]

Leo Network Nonprofits Have “Paid Millions Of Dollars In Consulting Fees To Private Firms In Which He Has A Financial Interest,” Including BH Group, “Enriching Mr. Leo In The Process.” “To help administer the enterprise, the network’s nonprofits, including the 85 Fund and Concord Fund, have paid millions of dollars in consulting fees to private firms in which he has a financial interest, like CRC Advisors and the BH Group, enriching Mr. Leo in the process. [...] Since 2016, the grant-making hubs in his network and the

recipients of their money have paid more than \$30 million to the firms owned at least partly by Mr. Leo, CRC Advisors and BH Group, according to the Times analysis.” [The New York Times, [10/12/22](#)]

Although The 85 Fund Did Not Disclose Payment To Jason W. Snead LLC, It Did Report Paying Over \$100,000 To 18 Unnamed Independent Contractors In 2020:

Section B. Independent Contractors		
1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.		
(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
CRC Advisors 2760 Eisenhower Ave, 4th Floor Alexandria, VA 223	Consulting/Advertising	12,117,335
Creative Direct 1402 Belleville St Richmond, VA 23230	Direct mail	1,484,422
MW Political 114 Karland Dr. Atlanta, GA 30305	Consulting	1,394,969
Consovoy McCarthy PLLC 1600 Wilson Blvd., Ste 700 Arlington, VA 22209	Legal research	1,365,000
Center for Rule of Law 9907 Georgetown Pike, Ste148 Great Falls, VA 2206	Consulting	925,000
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶		23

Form 990 (2020)

[The 85 Fund IRS Form 990, [2020](#)]

The Concord Fund Also Did Not Disclose Payment To Jason W. Snead LLC In 2020, But Reported Paying Over \$100,000 To 12 Unnamed Contractors That Year:

Section B. Independent Contractors		
1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.		
(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
CRC Advisors, 2850 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA 22314	Consulting	7,679,331
Mentzer Media, 2210 Grey Fox Court, Bel Air, MD 21015	Advocacy	6,194,131
Creative Direct, 1402 Belleville Street, Richmond, VA 23230	Advocacy	1,827,221
MWPpolitical, 114 Karland Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30305	Advocacy	725,519
BH Group, 1655 N Fort Meyer Dr, Ste 700, Arlington, VA 22209	consulting	500,000
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶		17

Form 990 (2020)

[The Concord Fund IRS Form 990, [2020](#)]

The Honest Elections Project Has Filed At Least A Dozen Amicus Briefs And Related Court Filings To Defend State Voting Restrictions In Florida, Texas, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Georgia, And Arkansas.

March 2020: The Honest Elections Project Filed An 11th Circuit Amicus Brief In Support Of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis And The State’s Policy Of Denying Voting Rights To Felons Until They Have Satisfied All The Terms Of Their Sentences, Including Fines, Fees, Community Service, And Other Obligations. “Florida has made the eminently reasonable policy decision that persons convicted of felonies should have their voting rights restored only after they have satisfied all terms of their sentences—including the term of incarceration, plus restitution, fines, fees, community service, and any other obligations.” [Honest Elections Project, [03/04/20](#)]

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

KEVIN LEON JONES, et al.,
Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

RON DESANTIS, et al.,
Defendants-Appellees.

On Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of Florida, No. 4:19-cv-300-RH-MJ

AMICUS BRIEF OF HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' PETITION
FOR REHEARING EN BANC

[The Honest Elections Project, [03/04/20](#)]

May 2020: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Amicus Brief To The Supreme Court Of Texas In Support Of The State's Case Against Multiple Local Governments' Pandemic Voting Procedures, Claiming They Could "Damage The Integrity And Perceived Legitimacy" Elections. "As part of its mission in this challenging time, the Honest Elections Project seeks to ensure that elections are carried out using lawful methods while, at the same time, accounting for the current public health emergency. Challenging or ignoring duly-enacted election procedures, as epitomized by the county election officials here, has the potential to damage the integrity and perceived legitimacy of the election results. The Honest Elections Project thus has a significant interest in this important case." [Supreme Court of Texas, [05/15/20](#)]

In the Supreme Court of Texas

IN RE STATE OF TEXAS,
Relator.

On Petition for Writ of Mandamus
to the Harris County Clerk, the Travis County Clerk,
the Dallas County Elections Administrator, the Cameron County Elections
Administrator, and the El Paso County Elections Administrator

AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF
OF HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF RELATOR

[Supreme Court of Texas, [05/15/20](#)]

June 2020: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Amicus Brief In Support Of Tennessee's Requirement For Voters To Provide An Excuse To Submit Absentee Ballots Despite The Pandemic, Writing "Tennessee Has Done Nothing To Restrict Voting." "Tennessee is one of sixteen States that encourages in-person voting by requiring an 'excuse' to vote absentee. [...] There are many sound reasons to run elections this way: preventing voter fraud, minimizing common ballot errors, extending campaigns, maximizing voter information, etc. [...] Contrary to the decision below, systems like Tennessee's did not suddenly become unconstitutional once COVID-19 hit. The constitutional right to vote secures one viable way to cast a ballot. Tennesseans who cannot vote absentee have that because they can vote in person—an option

the State deems safe, especially in light of the increased health and safety precautions. Tennessee has done nothing to restrict voting, and it is not responsible for the burdens associated with a virus that it did not create and cannot control.” [Supreme Court of Tennessee, [06/02/20](#)]

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

EARLE J. FISHER ET AL., <i>Appellees/Plaintiffs,</i>	
v.	
TRE HARGETT ET AL., <i>Appellants/Defendants.</i>	No. M2020-00831-SC-RDM-CV No. M2020-00832-SC-RDM-CV
BENJAMIN WILLIAM LAY ET AL., <i>Appellees/Plaintiffs,</i>	
v.	On Appeal from the Chancery Court for Davidson County, No. 20-0435-III
MARK GOINS ET AL., <i>Appellants/Defendants.</i>	

AMICUS BRIEF OF HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF APPELLANTS/DEFENDANTS

[Supreme Court of Tennessee, [06/02/20](#)]

October 2020: The Honest Election Project Asked The Ninth Circuit To File An Amicus Brief In Support Of Arizona’s Voter Registration Deadline After A District Court Ruled That The Deadline “Imposed Severe Burdens On Voting Rights.” “Here, too, the Project’s brief will be useful to the Court. The Project’s brief makes two major points. The brief explains how the District Court incorrectly found that Arizona’s voter registration deadline imposed severe burdens on voting rights under Anderson-Burdick, and consequently subjected the deadline to an inappropriately heightened level of scrutiny. The District Court essentially applied a strict scrutiny standard and incorrectly balanced the ‘minimal burden’ on voting rights against the important interests of Arizona.” [U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, [10/08/20](#)]

IN THE
United States Court of Appeals
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MI FAMILIA VOTA, *et al.*,
Plaintiffs-Appellees,

v.

KATIE HOBBS,
in her official capacity as Arizona Secretary of State,
Defendant-Appellee,

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, *et al.*,
Intervenor-Defendants-Appellants,

STATE OF ARIZONA,
Intervenor-Pending.

On Appeal from the United States
District Court for the District of Arizona
Case No. 2:20-cv-01143

UNOPPOSED MOTION OF THE HONEST ELECTIONS
PROJECT FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMICUS BRIEF IN SUPPORT
OF APPELLANTS’ AND INTERVENOR-APPELLANT’S
REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAY

[U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, [10/08/20](#)]

October 2020: The Honest Elections Project Asked The U.S. Supreme Court To File An Amicus Brief In Support Of The Pennsylvania Republican Party’s Lawsuit To Restore A Ballot Deadline That Had Been Lifted By The Pennsylvania Secretary Of State. “The Honest Elections Project’s Executive Director, Jason Snead, released the following statement on the Supreme Court’s decision denying a stay in Republican Party of Pennsylvania v. Boockvar: ‘The Supreme Court’s unwillingness to restore Pennsylvania’s legal ballot deadline is a disappointment for voters. It will certainly make headlines, but it is neither a license for other courts to modify election deadlines, nor a resolution of this crucial issue.’” [The Honest Elections Project, [10/20/20](#)]

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
Petitioner,

v.

KATHY BOOCKVAR, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS
PENNSYLVANIA SECRETARY OF STATE, et al.,
Respondents.

**On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania**

**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE
BRIEF AND *AMICUS CURIAE* BRIEF OF
HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT**

[U.S. Supreme Court, [October 2020](#)]

February 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Amicus Brief To The Pennsylvania Supreme Court Arguing “There Is No Constitutional Right To No-Excuse Voting By Mail.” “THERE IS NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO NO-EXCUSE VOTING BY MAIL [...] There is no unconditional right to vote by mail under either the United States or Pennsylvania Constitutions. Furthermore, the constitutional limitations on the right to vote are not automatically abridged by the mere existence of a pandemic or any other phenomenon. Accordingly, the Commonwealth cannot buttress its attempts to side-step its own constitutional safeguards by citing to any heightened interest in protecting voting rights.” [Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, [02/25/22](#)]

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA
Nos. 14 MAP 2022 & 15 MAP 2022 (Consolidated)
Nos. 17, 18, & 19 MAP 2022 (Cross Appeals)

DOUG McLINKO,
Petitioner/Appellee

v.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Respondents/Appellants.

TIMOTHY BONNER, *et al.*,
Petitioners/Appellees,

v.

LEIGH M. CHAPMAN, in her official capacity as Acting Secretary of the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, *et al.*,
Respondents/Appellants.

On Appeal from the January 28, 2022, Orders of the Commonwealth Court,
Nos. 244 MD 2021 and 293 MD 2021

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF APPELLEES

[Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, [02/25/22](#)]

March 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed A Non-Party Brief Against The Wisconsin Elections Commission's Relaxed Absentee Ballot Submission Rules, Allowing Drop Boxes And Allowing Voters To Have Other Individuals Submit Their Ballots On Their Behalf. "The rules that the Wisconsin Legislature has enacted for absentee voting are clear and specific. Voters must deliver absentee ballots by mail or 'in person, to the municipal clerk issuing the ballot or ballots.' [...] Plaintiffs are correct that the text unambiguously forecloses the executive actions challenged here. The Legislature specified these methods and no others. The Wisconsin Elections Commission thus could not allow 'another person' to deliver an absentee voter's ballot or authorize unstaffed 'drop boxes' for the collection of ballots. JA20-26." [Wisconsin Supreme Court, [03/22/22](#)]

IN THE
WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT

RICHARD TEIGEN and RICHARD THOM

Plaintiffs-Respondents-Petitioners,

v.

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION,

Defendant-Co-Appellant,

DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE,

Intervenor-Defendant-Co-Appellant,

DISABILITY RIGHTS WISCONSIN, WISCONSIN FAITH
VOICES FOR JUSTICE, and LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF WISCONSIN,

Intervenors-Defendants-Appellants.

NON-PARTY BRIEF OF HONEST
ELECTIONS PROJECT IN SUPPORT
OF PLAINTIFFS-RESPONDENTS

[Wisconsin Supreme Court, [03/22/22](#)]

June 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Eighth Circuit Amicus Brief Arguing That The Voting Rights Act Does Not Allow A Private Right Of Action And That The Arkansas NAACP's Lawsuit Against The Arkansas Board Of Apportionment. "Congress intended that §2 of the Voting Rights Act be used to root out invidious racial discrimination. It never intended for §2 to be used by litigation groups as a vehicle to undermine basic laws that improve election integrity. Nor did Congress 'weigh the 'costs and benefits' of

creating a cause of action' to burden the States in this manner.” [U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eight Circuit, [06/15/22](#)]

**In the United States Court of Appeals
for the Eighth Circuit**

ARKANSAS STATE CONFERENCE NAACP, et al.,
Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

ARKANSAS BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT, et al.,
Defendants-Appellees.

On Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Eastern District of Arkansas
No. 4:21-cv-01239-LPR

**AMICUS BRIEF OF HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF APPELLEES & AFFIRMANCE**

[U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eight Circuit, [06/15/22](#)]

June 2022: The Honest Elections Project Asked A Federal Court To Submit An Amicus Brief In Support Of Georgia’s “Anti-Voter Law” SB 202, Which Advanced A Variety Of New Election Restrictions. “The Project’s brief will be useful to this Court’s resolution of the important issues in this case. The brief will present an objective argument of why SB 202 is a commonsense election law and serves compelling state interests—an integral part of the First Amendment analysis.” [U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia Atlanta Division, [06/30/22](#)]

IN RE GEORGIA SENATE BILL 202	Master Case No.: 1:21-MI-55555-JPB
SIXTH DISTRICT OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Plaintiffs,</i> v. BRIAN KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, in his official capacity, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Defendants,</i> REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Intervenor-Defendants.</i>	Civil Action No.: 1:21- cv-01284-JPB
GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Plaintiffs,</i> v. BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, in his official capacity as the Secretary of State for the State of Georgia, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Defendants,</i> REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, <i>et al.</i> , <i>Intervenor-Defendants.</i>	Civil Action No.: 1:21-cv-01259-JPB

**HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT’S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AN
AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS AND
INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS**

[U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia Atlanta Division, [06/30/22](#)]

- **SB 202 Was Criticized As An “Anti-Voter Law” That “Attacks Absentee Voting, Criminalizes Georgians Who Give A Drink Of Water To Their Neighbors, Allows The State To Takeover County Elections,” And Advanced Other Restrictions.** “Georgia’s Anti-Voter Law (SB 202) [...] Georgia’s anti-voter law attacks absentee voting, criminalizes Georgians who give a drink of water to their neighbors, allows the State to takeover county elections, and retaliates against the elected Secretary of State by replacing him with a State Board of Elections Chair chosen by the legislature—rather than the voters.” [Georgia ACLU, accessed [02/01/23](#)]

July 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Eleventh Circuit Amicus Brief In Support Of Florida’s Voting Restrictions—Which Included Rules On Drop Boxes And Voter Registration—After A Lower Court Ruled That The State “Intentionally Discriminated Based On Race.” “This case involves commonsense voting rules adopted by Florida that promote election order and integrity, including regulations on voting drop boxes, how third parties register voters, and soliciting voters near a polling place. Despite States’ authority over voting rules and the reasonable nature of Florida’s rules, the district court issued an extraordinary opinion holding that the State had intentionally discriminated based on race in adopting them.” [U.S. Court of Appeals of the Eleventh Circuit, [07/15/22](#)]

United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FLORIDA, INC., ET AL.,
PLAINTIFFS-APPELLEES,

v.

FLORIDA SECRETARY OF STATE, ET AL.,
DEFENDANTS-APPELLANTS,

*APPEAL FROM THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
NOS. 21-CV-186, 187, 201, 242, HON. MARK E. WALKER, PRESIDING*

**BRIEF OF HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
AS AMICUS CURIAE SUPPORTING APPELLANTS AND REVERSAL**

[U.S. Court of Appeals of the Eleventh Circuit, [07/15/22](#)]

August 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed A Supreme Court Amicus Brief Against A Lower Court Decision Striking Down State Mail-In Voting Requirements That Could Result In Racial Discrimination.

“This case involves an effort to reinvent the federal Civil Rights Act to strike down innumerable neutral state voting laws that have nothing to do with even alleged race discrimination. Courts have consistently turned away similar efforts, but faced with an emergency proceeding attacking Pennsylvania law, the Third Circuit succumbed. To protect voting legitimacy and orderly administration of elections, Pennsylvania’s law requires any person submitting a vote-by-mail ballot to ‘date and sign’ a declaration printed on the back of the envelope. 25 Pa. Stat. and Cons. Stat. Ann. §§ 3146.6(a), 3150.16(a). Tucked away in a federal statute otherwise prohibiting race discrimination in voting practices, the materiality provision forbids any person ‘acting under color of law’ ‘to deny the right of any individual to vote in any election because of an error or omission on any record or paper relating to any application, registration, or other act requisite to voting, if such error or omission is not material in determining whether such individual is qualified . . . to vote.’ 52 U.S.C. § 10101(a)(2)(B). In an unprecedented decision, the Third Circuit held that this materiality provision provides a private cause of action and preempts state mail-in voting requirements.” [U.S. Supreme Court, [08/02/22](#)]

In the Supreme Court of the United States

DAVID RITTER,

Petitioner,

v.

LINDA MIGLIORI, FRANCIS J. FOX, RICHARD E.
RICHARDS, KENNETH RINGER, SERGIO RIVAS, ZAC
COHEN, AND LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS,

Respondents.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

**BRIEF FOR HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
AS AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT
OF PETITIONER**

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[U.S. Supreme Court, [08/02/22](#)]

The Honest Elections Project Has Also Filed A Supreme Court Amicus Brief In Moore V. Harper—Which Has Been Called A “Grave Threat To US Democracy”—Defending The North Carolina Legislature’s “Illegally Gerrymandered” Map And The “Debunked” Independent State Legislature Theory That Would Leave State Courts And Constitutions “Powerless” Over Federal Elections.

Moore V. Harper Is A Pending Supreme Court Case That Will Decide Whether The North Carolina Supreme Court May Strike Down An “Illegally Gerrymandered” Map Drawn By The State Legislature—The Case Hinges Around The “Debunked” Independent State Legislature Theory That Would Render State Courts And Constitutions “Powerless” Over Federal Elections. “In Moore v. Harper, the Supreme Court will decide whether the North Carolina Supreme Court has the power to strike down the legislature’s illegally gerrymandered congressional map for violating the North Carolina Constitution. The legislators have argued that a debunked interpretation of the U.S. Constitution — known as the ‘independent state legislature theory’ — renders the state courts and state constitution powerless in matters relating to federal elections.” [Brennan Center for Justice, [08/04/22](#)]

- **February 2022: The North Carolina Supreme Court Struck Down The Gerrymandered Map As An “Egregious And Intentional Partisan Gerrymander.”** “In February 2022, the North Carolina Supreme Court agreed with the voters and struck down the map, describing it as an ‘egregious and intentional partisan gerrymander . . . designed to enhance Republican performance, and thereby give a greater voice to those voters than to any others.’” [Brennan Center for Justice, [08/04/22](#)]

Moore V. Harper Has Been Called A “Grave Threat To US Democracy.” “Moore v. Harper is a grave threat to US democracy, and the fate of that democracy probably comes down to Amy Coney Barrett.” [Vox, [06/30/22](#)]

September 2022: The Honest Elections Project Filed An Amicus Brief To The U.S. Supreme Court In Support Of Petitioner Timothy Moore, The North Carolina Speaker Of The House:

Supreme Court of the United States

TIMOTHY K. MOORE, in his official capacity as
Speaker of the North Carolina House of
Representatives, et al.,

Petitioners,

v.

REBECCA HARPER, et al.,

Respondents.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO
THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT

**BRIEF OF *AMICUS CURIAE*
HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT
IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS**

[U.S. Supreme Court, [09/06/22](#)]

In A Press Release About Its Amicus Brief, Honest Elections Project Executive Director Jason Snead Claimed That The North Carolina Supreme Court’s Ruling Set “a Dangerous Precedent: That Rogue Courts Can Ignore The U.S. Constitution.” “Jason Snead, Executive Director of Honest Elections Project: ‘The Honest Elections Project filed an amicus brief in the U.S. Supreme Court defending the right of all Americans to vote in elections governed by democratically enacted laws. The U.S Constitution plainly gives legislatures the power to write election laws. In Moore v. Harper, the North Carolina Supreme Court used unprecedented interpretations of vague parts of the state constitution to seize control over congressional redistricting. That ruling sets a dangerous precedent: that rogue courts can ignore the U.S. Constitution and rewrite the laws of our democracy behind closed doors.’” [The Honest Elections Project, [09/07/22](#)]

Jason Snead Has Testified Before Multiple State Legislatures In Support Of Various Voting Restrictions, Including Bills To Restrict Voter Rolls, Absentee Ballots, And Ballot Harvesting.

Jason Snead Has Testified Before The Pennsylvania Legislature About Elections, Touting The Honest Election Project’s Work To Defend Various State Voting Restrictions. “Chair Grove, Democratic Chair Davidson, and members of this committee: Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on the need for our election laws to balance access with security. My name is Jason Snead, and I am the Executive Director of the Honest Elections Project, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to defending the right of every American to have fair, secure, and accessible elections. [...] HEP’s mission, put simply, is to make sure it is easy to vote, but also hard to cheat. We use advocacy, public engagement, and litigation to advance this commonsense goal. Since standing up in 2019, HEP has filed 25 amicus briefs in state and federal cases, supported a successful legal challenge to the improper extension of Minnesota’s absentee ballot receipt deadline, and supported a lawsuit in Michigan that prompted the state to remove 177,000 outdated entries from its voter rolls.” [Pennsylvania State Legislature, accessed [02/01/23](#)]

Jason Snead Has Testified Before The Rhode Island Legislature In Support Of A Bill To Advance Restrictions On Voter Rolls And Absentee Ballots. “Thank you Chair Shanley, Representative Morgan, and members of this committee for the opportunity to testify today on House Bill No. 6099. My name is Jason Snead, and I am the Executive Director of the Honest Elections Project, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to defending the right of every American to have fair, secure, and accessible elections. H6099 focuses on two aspects of election administration that are critical to preserving the credibility of our democracy: ensuring the accuracy of voter registration rolls, and protecting absentee ballots from an abuse-prone practice

known as ‘ballot harvesting,’ or the collection of voted ballots by political operatives, organizations, candidates, or others with a vested interest in the outcome of an election.” [Rhode Island Legislature, accessed [02/01/23](#)]

Jason Snead Has Testified Before The Idaho Senate State Affairs Committee In Support Of A Bill To Advance Photo ID Requirements On Ballot Harvesting. “Jason Snead, Executive Director, Honest Election Project, testified in support of S 1375 because photo ID requirements and prohibitions on ballot harvesting were considered best practices to protect voters and their ballots and inspire election confidence.” [Idaho Senate State Affairs Committee, [03/11/22](#)]

April 2022: The Honest Elections Project Joined Two Other Leo-Tied Groups, Heritage Action For America And The Election Transparency Initiative, To Urge Secretaries Of State To Use \$75 Million In Election State Security Grants To “Prioritize These Funds For Election Security.” “This year, Congress appropriated \$75 million for Election State Security Grants to states as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022. Each state is guaranteed to receive a minimum of \$1 million in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funding. States will be required to match 20% of the funding they receive. We, the undersigned organizations, urge every state to prioritize these funds for election security by implementing new election integrity provisions many states have adopted in the past year.” [Scribd, [04/12/22](#)]



April 12, 2022

Leslie Reynolds
Executive Director, NASS
444 North Capitol St. NW
Suite 401
Washington, DC 20001

[Scribd, [04/12/22](#)]

- **Leslie Reynolds Was The Executive Director Of The National Association Of Secretaries Of State.** [National Association Of Secretaries Of State, accessed [02/01/23](#)]

The Groups Urged Secretaries Of State To Use The Funding For Election Audits, Voter Fraud Investigations, And “Voter List Maintenance,” Among Other Items:

We urge this latest round of federal funds be devoted to improving the security and transparency of elections. Under the terms of HAVA, grants may be used for many purposes including:

- Voter list maintenance.
- Post-election audits and process reviews.
- Voter fraud investigations and the operation of voter fraud hotlines.
- Investigations into misfeasance or malfeasance by election officials.
- Purchasing security cameras for drop boxes and voting facilities.
- Enhancing cybersecurity.
- Acquiring new voting equipment, such as voting machines that produce voter-verifiable and auditable paper trails.
- Training for election officials.
- Voter education campaigns to raise aware of new or modified voting procedures.

[Scribd, [04/12/22](#)]