AFFIDAVIT OF KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI STAVISKY

KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI STAVISKY, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I, Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, residing at 106 Strawtown Road, West Nyack, New York 10994, serve as the Democratic Commissioner of the Rockland County Board of Elections (RCBOE). I have been in this position since 2013.
- 2. Since Early Voting began on Saturday, October 24, Rockland County's 4 early voting sites have seen lines where voters have been waiting in excess of 30 minutes for the entire time the polls have been open. On Saturday, October 24, 2020, and Monday, October 26, 2020, I was present at the Clarkstown Town Hall Early Voting site and observed a wait time of two hours. I am aware of similar situations happening at the three other Early Voting sites.
- 3. The Board does not systematically track the times voters wait in line at early voting sites. Accordingly, my assessment is based on my own observations, the observations of my staff and volunteers, reports from poll watchers and inspectors, and complaints received from voters.
- 4. Based on my own observations and on reliable reports, most voters attempting to vote early in Rockland County are waiting one-and-one-half to two hours to be processed.
- 5. I have attached one complaint received in writing as **EXHIBIT A** to this affidavit. I have received many additional complaints via phone and from voters coming directly to the BOE to obtain an absentee ballot in person due to the lines.
- 6. Our Electronic Poll Books show the last check in at all four sites has consistently been hours past the designated end times.
- 7. I have included the last check times for each site below.
 - 1. Clarkstown Town Hall
 - a. October 24, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 15:13 (3:13PM)
 - b. October 25, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 15:25 (3:25PM)
 - c. October 26, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:58 (5:58PM)
 - d. October 27, 2020 12Noon 8PM. Last check in: 21:52 (9:52PM)
 - e. October 28, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 18:00 (6:00PM)
 - 2. Haverstraw Town Hall
 - a. October 24, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 14:45 (2:45PM)

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- b. October 25, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 14:43 (2:43PM)
- c. October 26, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:09 (5:09PM)
- d. October 27, 2020 12Noon 8PM. Last check in: 20:52 (8:52PM)
- e. October 28, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:35 (5:35PM)
- 3. Orangetown Town Hall
 - a. October 24, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 15:07 (3:07PM)
 - b. October 25, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 15:00 (3:00PM)
 - c. October 26, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:54 (5:54PM)
 - d. October 27, 2020 12Noon 8PM. Last check in: 21:41 (9:41PM)
 - e. October 28, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 18:14 (6:14PM)
- 4. Ramapo Town Hall
 - a. October 24, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 16:59 (4:59PM)
 - b. October 25, 2020 9AM 2PM. Last check in: 14:56 (2:56PM)
 - c. October 26, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:31 (5:31PM)
 - d. October 27, 2020 12Noon 8PM. Last check in: 21:20 (9:20PM)
 - e. October 28, 2020 9AM 5PM. Last check in: 17:36 (5:36PM)
- 8. We have provided extra staff to help with crowd control, but otherwise we have not taken any action to expand capacity. As a Board, we are required to act jointly. I requested an additional poll pad at each site on Tuesday. Today, I requested we add an additional site for Saturday and Sunday. The first request was denied. I have not received a response on the second request.
- 9. I have been communicating with my counterpart, Republican Commissioner Patricia A. Giblin, about the excess wait times. I have proposed at least four or five times to her that we a) expand our hours today and this weekend to meet the demand of the voting population; and b) add an additional early voting site at the county owned and controlled Fire Training Center during the Saturday and Sunday Voting Hours. This site is utilized as a poll site on Election Day. All of these proposals have been denied. Without Commissioner Giblin's agreement, the RCBOE will not be able to take any action to reduce early voting wait times.
- 10. In addition to the well-documented issue of early voters experiencing wait times significantly longer than 30 minutes, I am also concerned as Commissioner that reports of these long wait times are prompting many voters to avoid early voting altogether.
- 11. I anticipate that, without expanded hours and an additional early voting site, people attempting to vote early this coming weekend (October 30 through November 1) will experience even longer wait times and/or will be discouraged from early voting.

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- 12. We have the resources and ability cover the costs of expanding hours and adding an additional site because we received over \$185,000 in additional funding through a grant made by the Center for Tech and Civic Life.
- 13. In order to bring down wait times this coming weekend, I recommend expanding hours 9AM to 5PM on Saturday and Sunday. I had proposed we expand from 9AM to 8PM today, which is no longer feasible. Early Voting today will run from Noon to 8PM. While I have not formally requested it, I would be amenable to expanding sites from 9AM to 8PM tomorrow rather than 9AM to 5PM. I also recommend we add a fifth Early Voting Site at the Fire Training Center for the weekend.

Dated: October 29, 2020 Rockland County, NY

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF ROCKLAND) ss:

Sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 2020.

Sof a. H. NOTARY PUBLIC

Robert Hodgson Notary Public, State of NY Registration No. 02HO6298810 Qualified in Kings County Commission Expires 3/17/2022

Sworn to me via videoconferencing pursuant to Executive Order 202.67

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EXHIBIT A

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From: Nicholas Christie-Blick <ncb@ideo.columbia.edu> Sent: Saturday, October 24, 2020 12:51 PM To: Zebrowski Stavisky, Kristen <StaviskK@co.rockland.ny.us> Subject: Early voting onslaught/ two hour wait in Orangetown

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Kristen:

It is safe to conclude, just before noon on Saturday, October 24 at Orangetown Town Hall, that Rockland County, New York is ill-prepared for the early voting onslaught. The line snakes around the entire building – and was this long two hours ago according to a gentleman with whom I spoke, just a few feet from being permitted to enter the building.

Patsy Wooters tells me that the wait is three hours in Ramapo.

Nick

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