533467

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EXHIBIT 3

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK APPELLATE DIVISION: THIRD DEPARTMENT

In the Matter of the Application of the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, by LETITIA JAMES, Attorney General of the State of New York,

Petitioner-Respondent,

Appellate Division— Third Department Case No. 533467

and

TROY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, CLIFTON PEREZ, SHARON FERGUSON, and DANIELLE COLIN CHARLESTON,

Proposed Intervenor Petitioner-Respondents

-against-

JASON SCHOFIELD, individually and in his capacity of Commissioner of the Rensselaer County Board of Elections, EDWARD McDONOUGH, individually and in his capacity of Commissioner of the Rensselaer County Board of Elections, and RENSSELAER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS,

Respondents-Appellants.

AFFIDAVIT OF RENÉE POWELL

- I, Renée Powell, being duly sworn, say:
- 1. I am a 63 year-old Black woman.
- 2. I am a registered voter in Rensselaer County.
- 3. I am the President of the Troy Branch of the National Association for the

Advancement of Colored People (the "Troy NAACP"). I have served in this role since 2019. I have been a member of the Troy NAACP since 2018.

- 4. The Troy NAACP's mission is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons, to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination, and to remove the barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes. Voting rights advocacy is a critical part of our mission.
- 5. The Troy NAACP is a non-profit, non-partisan, all-volunteer civil rights membership organization with no paid staff and annual budget of approximately \$3,000.
 - 6. There are approximately 70 members of the Troy NAACP.
- 7. Some Troy NAACP members live in the North Central or Lansingburgh neighborhoods of Troy.
- 8. In my experience as President of the Troy NAACP, I know that early voting is important to the Troy NAACP and its members because many voters of color, including Troy NAACP members, believe it is more likely that their vote will be counted if they vote in person. In my experience, I know that some of the distrust of absentee voting is due to concerns about poor mail service and the greater risk that absentee ballots will not be counted.
- 9. Early voting is important to the Troy NAACP and its members because the flexibility of early voting enables voters, including Troy NAACP members, to navigate work, family, and other important obligations to find opportunities to vote in-person.
- 10. Early voting is important to the Troy NAACP because it enables voters, particularly voters of color, including Troy NAACP members, to find opportunities to go vote together, such as elderly voters who require rides to the polls with neighbors or family members or "Souls to the Polls" initiatives, where Black church congregations go to the polls together after Sunday services.

- 11. The membership of the Troy NAACP includes registered voters in Rensselaer County who want to vote early in-person, but have been deterred from doing so or have had difficulty doing so because no designated early voting site is reasonably accessible for them. Some Troy NAACP members lack access to household vehicles and rely on public transportation. Some Troy NAACP members have extensive work, family, or other obligations and it would take too much time for them to travel to the early voting locations at Brunswick. Schodack, or Holy Cross Armenian Church in order for them to be able to vote early and to meet their other obligations. For example, one Troy NAACP member for whom I know the early voting sites are difficult to access is Sharon Ferguson. Ms. Ferguson lives in the Corliss Park section of the Lansingburgh neighborhood and does not have access to a personal vehicle and generally relies on public transportation. Another Troy NAACP member for whom I know the early voting sites are difficult to access is Flora Carr. Ms. Carr lives in the North Central neighborhood of Troy. Ms. Carr has health concerns that sometimes prohibit her from driving. The flexibility to vote early is important to Ms. Carr because she often has to rely on others for transportation.
- 12. If the Rensselaer County Board of Elections designated an early voting site in central or north central Troy that is accessible by public transportation and along prevailing commuting routes for Troy residents, Troy NAACP members, including Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Carr, would be substantially less burdened in exercising their rights to vote than under an early voting site plan that includes only the Brunswick, Schodack, and Holy Cross Armenian Church sites.

Ronée Powell
(Print Name)

Sworn to before me this

2nd day of August, 2021

NINA NICHOLS
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01NI6301886
Qualified in Rensselaer County
My Commission Expires 04-28-2022