	IN THE UNITED STATE	ES DISTRICT COOK			
F	OR THE CENTRAL DI	STRICT OF ILLINO	OIS A		
	SPRINGFIELI	DIVISION			
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ATT AN COUNTY	`	- VIX	S.S. Mos.		
ALLAN STEVO,	,		U 15/072 12/2 108		
)		1878/07 CO.		
	Plaintiff,)	Case No.	Cr COYURY		
)				
v.)	Judge	* INO		
•	í	0 8	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		
JOHN R. KEITH,	WILLIAM M				
-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
,	OBERT J. WALTERS,)				
PATRICK A. BRA	ADY, WANDA L.				
REDNOUR, JESS	IE R. SMART,				
ALBERT PORTE	R, and BRYAN				
	heir official capacities				
•	s for the Illinois State				
	,				
Board of Elections	•				
Defendants.		PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION			
)	REQUESTED			
		-			

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

COMPLAINT

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff, Allan Stevo, is an independent candidate for Congress. He is running for election to Illinois's Tenth Congressional seat.

Defendants are sued in their official capacities as Board Members sitting on the Illinois State Board of Elections. Defendants' are specifically empowered by Illinois law to determine the validity of nominating petitions and issue certificates of nominations.

Plaintiff submitted over 7200 valid voters' signatures to Defendants on June 23, 2008 in order to qualify for the Tenth Congressional District ballot. Within five days of that submission, Plaintiff's candidacy was challenged by Patrick LeBeau of DesPlaines, Illinois.

Defendants on July 21, 2008 concluded that Plaintiff had not complied with Illinois's requirement that independent candidates for Congressional seats in election years that do not immediately follow the federal census submit signatures equal in number to 5% of the total number of persons who voted in the last general election within the congressional district. See 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3. Applying this requirement to the Tenth Congressional District, Defendants ruled that independent candidates must submit between 10,285 and 16,455 signatures, see Exhibit 1, and that Plaintiff had not met that standard. See Exhibit 2.

In the above-styled action, Plaintiff challenges Defendants' application of Illinois's signature-requirement to his candidacy as violating the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. In particular, Plaintiff claims that Illinois law violates both the First Amendment and the Equal Protection Clause.

PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff, Allan Stevo, is an Illinois resident who lives outside Chicago and who satisfies the qualifications for House membership spelled out in Article I, § 2, cl. 2, of the United States Constitution.
- 2. Plaintiff seeks ballot access to run for Congress in Illinois's Tenth Congressional District. .
- 3. Defendants are Board Members sitting on Illinois's State Board of Elections.
- 4. Defendants are sued in their official capacities for enforcing Illinois's ballot access law and for applying 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3 to Plaintiff.
- 5. At all times relevant to this action Defendants were engaged in state action and were acting under color of state law.

6. Defendants are being sued in their official capacities for declaratory and injunctive relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 28 U.S.C. § 2201, as well as costs and attorney's fees under 42 U.S.C. § 1988(b).

JURISDICTION

7. Jurisdiction in this case is predicated on 28 U.S.C. § 1331, this being a case arising under the Constitution of the United States and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

VENUE

8. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. 1391(b) because the Defendants reside in the Central District of Illinois, Springfield Division, have their principal place of business in the Central District of Illinois, Springfield Division, and a substantial part of the events giving rise to Plaintiffs' claims occurred in the Central District of Illinois, Springfield Division.

FACTS

- 9. Illinois law requires that independent candidates for Congress in election years that do not immediately follow the federal census petition for ballot access by collecting a number of signatures equal to 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular general election within the congressional district. *See* 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3.
- 10. Illinois law states that "[f]or the first election following a redistricting of congressional districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for congressman shall be signed by at least 5,000 qualified voters of the congressional district." 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3.

- 11. Under Illinois law, independent candidates running for Congress in 1972, 1982, 1992, 2002, and in 2012are only required to gather signatures from 5,000 qualified voters in the congressional district in which they are running.
- 12. Candidates for Congress running in 2008, including Plaintiff, must collect signatures from a far greater number of qualified voters in the congressional district in which they are running; specifically, independent candidates in the Tenth Congressional District must collect no fewer than 10,285 signatures from qualified voters in the congressional district. *See* Exhibit 1.
- 13. Plaintiff collected and submitted to Defendants in a timely fashion signatures from over 7,000 qualified voters in the Tenth Congressional District to support his petition for ballot access.
- 14. Plaintiff's submission was contested by Patrick LeBeau of DesPlaines, Illinois within five days of Plaintiff's having filed with Defendants.
- 15. Defendants on July 21, 2008 ruled that Plaintiff's petition did not comply with Illinois law because it was not supported by the required number (10,285) of signatures.
- 16. Illinois's signature requirement for independent congressional candidates in election years that do not immediately follow the federal census represents the third most numerous signature requirement for congressional office (House) in the United States.
- 17. Only Georgia, which requires a number of signatures equal to 5% of the registered voters in the congressional district, South Carolina, which requires a number of signatures equal to 5% of the number of registered voters in the congressional district (but not to exceed 10,000 signatures) and North Carolina, which requires a number of signatures equal to 4% of the registered voters in the congressional district, equal or

exceed the number commonly required in election years not immediately following the federal census in Illinois.

- 18. No independent candidate for the United States House of Representatives has ever met a petition requirement exceeding 12,919 signatures in the United States.
- 19. Illinois's requirement that independent candidates in the Tenth Congressional District collect 10,285 signatures in order to qualify for the 2008 congressional ballot is not necessary to further any legitimate state interest.
- 20. Illinois's requirement that independent candidates in the Tenth Congressional District collect 10,285 signatures in order to qualify for the 2008 congressional ballot places a severe burden on the First Amendment rights of independent candidates, including Plaintiff, and their supporters.
- 21. Illinois's requirement that independent congressional candidates need only collect 5,000 signatures in election years immediately following the federal census proves that requiring twice as many signatures from Plaintiff is unnecessary, discriminatory and unconstitutional.

CAUSES OF ACTION AND DEMAND FOR RELIEF FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 22. Plaintiff hereby incorporates all of the claims, allegations and assertions set forth in paragraphs 1-21 as if fully rewritten herein.
- 23. 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3 is unconstitutional under the First and Fourteenth Amendments as applied to Plaintiff's independent candidacy in Illinois's Tenth Congressional District.

24. 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3's application to Plaintiff violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 25. Plaintiff hereby incorporates all of the claims, allegations and assertions set forth in paragraphs 1-21 as if fully rewritten herein.
- 26. 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3's requirement that independent candidates for congressional office collect signatures equal in number to 5% of the total number of persons who cast votes in the last general election in the district is facially unconstitutional under the First and Fourteenth Amendments.
- 27. Enforcement of 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3 by Defendants violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

- 28. Plaintiff hereby incorporate all of the claims, allegations and assertions set forth in paragraphs 1-21 as if fully rewritten herein.
- 29. Plaintiff has demonstrated by collecting over 7,200 signatures that he has a sufficient support in Illinois's Tenth Congressional District to justify his being on the ballot.
- 30. Defendants' excluding Plaintiff from the Illinois ballot notwithstanding the absence of a constitutionally acceptable signature requirement and notwithstanding Plaintiff's sufficient community support violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

DEMAND FOR RELIEF

31. Defendants' unconstitutional enforcement of 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3 under color of law and in their official capacities renders them liable at equity for prospective declaratory and injunctive relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 28 U.S.C. § 2201.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands that judgment be entered against Defendants and that:

- 32. 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3 be declared facially unconstitutional and/or unconstitutional as applied to Plaintiff under 28 U.S.C. § 2201;
- 33. Defendants be preliminarily enjoined from enforcing 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3;
- 34. Defendants be permanently enjoined from enforcing 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/10-3;
- 35. Defendants be ordered to place Plaintiff's name on Illinois's official ballot for Illinois's Tenth Congressional District for the 2008 general election;
- 36. Defendants be ordered to pay to Plaintiff costs and a reasonable attorney's fees under 42 U.S.C. § 1988(b); and
- 37. Defendants be directed to provide to Plaintiff any additional relief the Court deems just.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Brown Ohio # 0081941

303 E. Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43215

(614) 236-6590

(614) 236-6956 (FAX)

mbrown@law.capital.edu

Exhibit I

OFFICE:

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

MINIMUM AGE:

25 years

RESIDENCY:

United States citizen for seven years. Inhabitant of Illinois at the time

of the election and a registered voter. (U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 2)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS:

ESTABLISHED PARTY CANDIDATES

Not less than .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of his party in the congressional district. The actual number of signatures required is compiled by the State Board of Elections. [10 ILCS 5/7-10(b)] (See

Signature Requirements Section.)

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the congressional district. The actual number of signatures required is compiled by the State Board of Elections. [10]

ILCS 5/10-3] (See Signature Requirements Section.)

NEW PARTY CANDIDATES

Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular General Election within the congressional district. There is **no maximum** signature requirement. The actual number of signatures required is compiled by the State Board of Elections. [10 ILCS 5/10-2]

(See Signature Requirements Section.)

PETITIONS:

ESTABLISHED PARTY: SBE No. P-11

INDEPENDENT: SBE No. P-3

NEW PARTY: SBE No. P-8

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY:

ESTABLISHED PARTY: SBE No. P-1

INDEPENDENT: SBE No. P-1B

NEW PARTY: SBE No. P-1D

STATEMENT OF

ECONOMIC INTERESTS:

Not required for federal office.

LOYALTY OATH:

(Optional) Filed with nomination papers. SBE No. P-1C

FILING DATES: ESTABLISHED PARTY: Not more than 99 nor less than 92 days

prior to the General Primary, October 29 – November 5, 2007.

INDEPENDENT: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to

the General Election, June 16-23, 2008.

NEW PARTY: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the

General Election, June 16-23, 2008.

WHERE TO FILE: State Board of Elections, 1020 South Spring Street, P.O. Box 4187,

Springfield, Illinois 62708. (Use P.O. Box for mailing)

CAMPAIGN Filed with the Federal Election Commission, 999 "E" Street N.W.,

FINANCIAL Washington, DC 20463 (Telephone: 800/424-9530).

DISCLOSURE: washington, DC 20403 (Telephone: 800/424-9330).

NOTE: These filing requirements are subject to change by the

FEC. We advise that you contact the FEC for the latest

information on filing requirements.

TERM BEGINS: Noon, January 3, 2009 (U.S. Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 2)

TERM OF OFFICE: 2 years

FILING INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PETITION FILING DATA CARD

P-28 NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT

P-2A CERTIFICATE OF DELETIONS (Established Party and Independent candidates)

P-2B CERTIFICATE OF ATTACHED LIST OF DELETIONS (Independent candidates)

P-8C CERTIFICATE OF OFFICERS (NEW PARTY VACANCY IN NOMINATION)

U. S. CONGRESS

District	Democratic .5%	Republican .5%	Green .5%	Independent 5% - 8%	New Party 5%
1	1,233	238	600	9,089 - 14,541	9,089
2	1,203	220	600	8,880 - 14,207	8,880
3	891	502	600	8,691 - 13,904	8,691
4	553	139	600	4,293 - 6,868	4,293
5	951	397	600	7,713 - 12,340	7,713
6	827	696	600	9,016 - 14,424	9,016

U. S. CONGRESS

District	Democratic .5%	Republican .5%	Green .5%	Independent 5% - 8%	New Party 5%
7	1,202	226	600	8,588 - 13,739	8,588
** 8	869	767	600	9,296 - 14,872	9,296
9	1,005	406	600	8,644 - 13,829	8,644
10	1,001	673	600	10,285 - 16,455	10,285
11	969	814	600	10,132 - 16,210	10,132
12	939	699	600	9,739 - 15,581	9,739
13	1,033	886	600	10,480 - 16,768	10,480
14	863	793	600	9,995 - 15,991	9,995
15	842	888	600	10,364 - 16,582	10,364
16	910	842	600	10,217 - 16,346	10,217
17	943	697	600	10,344 - 16,549	10,344
18	928	906	600	11,422 - 18,274	11,422
19	833	951	600	12,205 - 19,526	12,205

^{**} District 8 - Moderate Party - 600 Signatures

BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SITTING AS THE STATE OFFICERS ELECTORAL BOARD FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING UPON OF OBJECTIONS TO NOMINATION PAPERS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

IN THE MATTER OF C)		
Patrick LeBeau,	Objector)))) No. 08 SOE	B GE 508
Allan Stevo,	Candidate)))	

DECISION

The State Board of Elections, sitting as the duly constituted electoral board pursuant to Sections 10-9 and 10-10 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-9 and 5/10-10), and having convened on July 21, 2008 at 1020 S. Spring St., Springfield Illinois, and having heard and considered the objections filed in the above-titled matter, hereby determines and finds that:

- 1. The State Board of Elections has been duly and legally constituted as the State Officers Electoral Board for the purpose of hearing and passing upon the objections filed in this matter and as such, has jurisdiction in this matter;
- On June 30, 2008, Patrick LeBeau filed an objection to the nominating petition of Allan Stevo for United States Representative for the 10th Congressional District as an Independent candidate.
- 3. A call for the hearing on said objection was duly issued and was served upon the Members of the Board, the objector and the candidate by registered mail as provided by statute.
- 4. On the basis of the findings of the Board's appointed hearing examiner and the General Counsel, the Board finds that the candidate's nominating petition did not contain the required number of signatures necessary to place him on the ballot. The candidate was required to file a petition which contained no fewer than 10,285 signatures. His petition contained only 6,978 signatures.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the objection of Patrick LeBeau to the nomination papers of Allan Stevo, Independent Candidate for the office of United States Representative in the 10th Congressional District, is SUSTAINED.

Albert 1 Sorter

Albert S. Porter, Chairman

Page 1 of 1

E-FILED

Tuesday, 29 July, 2008 12:46:52 PM Clerk, U.S. District Court, ILCD

The JS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

CIVICOVER SHEET

Clerk, U.S. District Court, ILCD

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filling 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 THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		الق عالات	DEFENDANTS		The state of the s
• •	e of First Listed Plaintiff COOK C	CLERK OF T U.S. DISTRIC CGENTYRIAL DISTRIC	TCOURT Residence of	filliam M. McGuffage, anda Rednour, Jessi First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES CONDEMNATION CASES, US VOLVED.	e Smart, Albert Porter,
(c) Attorney's (Firm Nam	e, Address, and Telephone Number)		Attorneys (If Known)	VOLVED,	
Mark R. Brown, 303 E. 614) 236-6590	Broad Street, Columbus, O	1	Terrence J. Corrig Second Street, Sp		General's Office, 500 S.
II. BASIS OF JURISI	DICTION (Place an "X" in One Bo				Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
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🗇 2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity(Indicate Citizenship of Parti		n of Another State 🔲 2	2	
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IV. NATURE OF SUI	T (Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS		REFEITURE/PENALTY		
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