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## April 18 Roundtable Update

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## **NEW YORK REDISTRICTING ROUNDTABLE UPDATE**

### **New York State Redistricting Update: *Harkenrider et al. v. Hochul et al.***

#### **Judge Appoints Special Master to Draw Standby Congressional Plan**

Earlier today, State Supreme Court Judge Patrick McAllister appointed Carnegie Mellon University Postdoctoral Fellow Jonathan Cervas to draft a standby New York congressional map by May. The map would be used if the Court of Appeals affirms Judge McAllister's late March ruling invalidating the new congressional map as a partisan gerrymander. In the meantime, the map enacted by the state legislature will continue be used for the June primary (unless later changed as a result of a Court of Appeals ruling). A hearing on the merits of Judge McAllister's earlier decision is being heard by the Appellate Division on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Any interested person can submit either a complete or partial congressional map to Dr. Cervas by Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Replies or comments on these submissions can be sent in by Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Cervas will hold a hearing on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM where the public and parties can comment. The hearing will be in the Steuben County Courthouse in Bath, N.Y

Dr. Cervas must complete his map by Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Written comments on Dr. Cervas' map can be submitted to the Court in writing by Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Court will release a final map on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Judge McAllister has set a ceiling of \$90,000 to be spent on the master's mapping process. Dr. Cervas will be compensated at \$450 hourly. New York State will pay all costs.

According to his university website, Dr. Cervas is a "specialist in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and has worked as an assistant to a federal court Special Master in drawing remedial maps in three redistricting cases involving minority rights. The first of these was *Navajo Nation et al v. San Juan County, Utah* in 2017; followed in 2018-19 by *Bethune-Hill et al v. State Board of Election*, which involved the redrawing of one quarter of the districts in Virginia's legislative districts in the House Of Delegates; and in 2019-20, he worked on *Wright v. Sumter County Board of Elections*, a case involving school districts in a small Georgia County."