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Redistricting Roundtable Updates

NY Census and Redistricting Institute

8-21-2022

August 21 Roundtable Update

Marissa Zanfardino

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WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL

NEW YORK REDISTRICTING ROUNDTABLE UPDATE

Ryan et al v. McMahon et al: New Lawsuit Challenges Onondaga Maps

On August 18, the plaintiffs, members of the Democratic Caucus in Onondaga County, allege that the map produced by the Legislative District Revision Commission ("LDRC") violated the County Charter and provisions of the New York State Home Rule Law. They allege that the Republican majority and the Republican Executive of the County of Onondaga intended from the outset to make a Change in Districts which would be patrician in design and which would illegally impact the African American community of the County of Onondaga in violation of the one-person one-vote concept and favor Republican candidate in the future. The plaintiffs also allege that the Glazier map violated procedural requirements of the County Charter by having been vetoed by the County Executive. They state that upon information and belief, the Executive, without authority pursuant to section 207 of the Charter, vetoed the LDRC map and then directed a county employee Glazier to prepare a map and that this map failed to comply with the Home Rule Law, requiring a plan to comply with redistricting standards.

The plaintiffs state that the maps fail to consider the maintenance of cores of communities of interest and are not as compact in form as practicable. Further, they state that the Maps were drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minority groups to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representative of their choice. The plaintiffs seek a declaratory judgment to invalidate the defective maps and to compel the defendants to adopt new maps prepared by the court with the assistance of a neutral expert.

Nichols et al v. Hochul et al: Lawsuit Challenges Assembly Map in New York County Supreme Court

Judge Love ordered that the parties will be heard on **August 24 at 10 am** in New York County Supreme Court.

NYC Bar Association: New York Redistricting: What Happened? What's Next?

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Program Fee:

Free for Members | \$15 for Non-Member Lawyers | Free for Non-Lawyers Non-Lawyers please <u>Click Here</u> or call Customer Relations at 212-382-6663 to register.

Please Note: This event will be in-person with an available webcast of the panel presentation. Select your preference for in-person or virtual attendance before

completing your registration below. Virtual attendees will receive a final confirmation containing the Zoom link and Access Code to join the event 2 hours prior to the start of the event.

Description:

Come hear leading election law experts talk about what needs to be done to improve the process of redistricting in New York. Top redistricting experts will discuss: What happened with the recent New York State redistricting process and why. Is the current process any better than methods used in the past? What do we need to do now to improve the process for next time? How is the New York City process different? Is it better at balancing constitutional priorities and what's ahead?

Moderator:

Brigid Bergin, Senior Political Correspondent, WNYC and Gothamist

Panelists:

Martin E. Connor, Law Office of Martin E. Connor; Former Minority Leader, NYS Senate **Lucia Gomez**, Political Director, NYC Central Labor Council

John Flateau, Ph.D., Executive Director, New York City Districting Commission; Professor, Medgar Evers College, CUNY

David Imamura, Chair, New York State Independent Redistricting Commission; Associate Counsel, Abrams, Fensterman LLC

Susan Lerner, Executive Director, Common Cause New York

Steven Romalewski, Director, CUNY Mapping Service, Center for Urban Research, CUNY Graduate Center

Jerry Vattamala, Director, Democracy Program, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund

Jeffrey M. Wice, Adjunct Professor and Senior Fellow, New York Census and Redistricting Institute/New York Law School; Special Counsel, New York City Districting Commission

Upcoming Redistricting Hearings

New York City

 Monday August 22, 2022 @ 5:30pm to 9pm: Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Blvd., Harlem, Manhattan, 10037

The hearings can all be viewed in person or remotely. You can register here.