

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA**

COMMON CAUSE GEORGIA, as an organization,	)	
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	)	
<i>Plaintiff,</i>	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 18-cv- <b>COMPLAINT</b>
	)	
BRIAN KEMP, in his official capacity as Secretary of State of Georgia,	)	
	)	
	)	
<i>Defendant.</i>	)	
	)	

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This is an action seeking to protect against the denial of Georgia citizens’ fundamental right to vote as a result of malfeasance or tampering with Georgia’s voter registration database—a threat made more acute in the last few days by the actions of Defendant. Plaintiff Common Cause Georgia, a non-partisan voter advocacy organization that is a part of Common Cause, a national organization, asks this Court to issue declaratory and injunctive relief to ensure that

the provisional ballots cast by affected voters are properly counted. Specifically, Plaintiff seeks an Order requiring that provisional ballots be counted in Georgia in a manner consistent with federal and state constitutional and statutory law. As there is no way to investigate in a timely manner how many voters have been affected by the security vulnerabilities the Defendant has chosen not to address—and in recent days exacerbated—Plaintiff respectfully submits that provisional ballots are the only practical proxy for identifying affected voters and ensuring they do not lose their votes as a result of Defendant’s reckless conduct.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This case arises under the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Georgia. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343, and 1367. This Court has jurisdiction to grant declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

3. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because Defendant resides in this district and a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff’s claims occurred in this district.

### **PARTIES**

4. Plaintiff COMMON CAUSE GEORGIA is a chapter of Common Cause, a non-partisan citizen lobby organized as a not-for-profit corporation under

the laws of the District of Columbia, and devoted to electoral reform, ethics in government and to the protection and preservation of the rights of all citizens to vote in national, state and local elections, including the education of voters about voting rights and procedures. Common Cause is one of the nation's leading grassroots, democracy-focused organizations and has over 1.2 million members nationwide and chapters in 30 states. Common Cause Georgia has 18,785 members and supporters in Georgia. Since its founding, Common Cause has been dedicated to the promotion and protection of the democratic process, including the right of all citizens to vote in fair, open, and honest elections. Common Cause conducts significant non-partisan voter-protection, advocacy, education, and outreach activities to ensure that voters are registered and have their ballots counted as cast. In addition, Common Cause offers online tools to assist voters in registering to vote and checking their registration status.

5. Common Cause Georgia has increased its efforts in the areas of election protection, voter education, and grassroots mobilization around voting rights in the state. As of 2017, Common Cause Georgia, alongside its partners at New Georgia Project, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, ACLU of Georgia, and Spread the Vote, created a program to help recruit volunteers to monitor local board of elections meetings through the Peanut Gallery program. Common Cause

also works with these partners, and others, in election protection efforts during both midterm and presidential elections. Through its volunteer recruitment for poll monitors, Common Cause Georgia is on track to help monitor an average of five polling locations in 22 counties for a total of 110 polling places. Common Cause Georgia additionally engages in online petition drives, soliciting signatures from its members and supporters urging government officials to take certain actions. Furthermore, Common Cause Georgia participates in voter registration events. Defendant's actions with respect to the State voter registration database impact Common Cause Georgia's work, as its election protection program focuses on providing resources that enable voters to participate in the election and be educated on the questions they should ask to confirm their registration status. Common Cause Georgia now must redouble its efforts to counter this latest challenge to Georgia citizens' fundamental right to vote. As a result, Common Cause Georgia has, and will continue to have, fewer resources to devote to its other organizational activities unless the state's provisional balloting process is modified to permit qualified and duly registered voters to have their ballots counted.

6. Defendant BRIAN KEMP is the Secretary of State of Georgia and the State's chief election official.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

### The Georgia My Voter Page System is Vulnerable to Attack and Threatens to Cause Confusion and Potentially Improperly Restrict Voters' Right to Vote

7. My Voter Page, a website of the Georgia State Government, is a public interface where voters can check their voter registration status, poll locations, and view sample ballots for upcoming elections. The registration records used at the polls to determine whether voters are eligible to vote are created from data in the My Voter Page system.

8. As Secretary of State, Brian Kemp is responsible for the security of voter information, including information on the My Voter Page.

9. On information and belief, My Voter Page and the state's voter registration server are vulnerable to multiple security breaches.

10. For example, on information and belief, at least as of November 4, 2018, an individual can access My Voter Page and click on a link to get to an insecure page, which allows the individual to view any file on the My Voter Page server simply by typing the file name into the web browser.<sup>1</sup> An individual can then access any document, configuration files for the network, or cryptographic

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<sup>1</sup> See Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Kemp's Aggressive Gambit to Distract From Election Security Crisis*, Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/kemps-aggressive-gambit-to-distract-from-election-security-crisis/>.

keys.<sup>2</sup> An attacker can also take advantage of this vulnerability and download every Georgia voter's personally identifiable information and change or cancel the voter registrations and data housed on the system.<sup>3</sup> It is believed that an attacker could potentially automate this process to change the registration of multiple voters at once.<sup>4</sup>

11. Because voter history, absentee voting data, and early voting data are public records available on the Secretary of State's website, this publicly available information can be used to target certain demographic groups and manipulate their data and change or cancel their registrations.

12. Not only could this eliminate an individual's ability to vote, but it also could cause significant confusion at the polls. For example, Georgia voters have, throughout this election season, reported being assigned to the wrong precinct, being issued the wrong ballot, and not showing up in the poll books. While it is not known how long the vulnerabilities described above have been in place or

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> Matt Bernhard, *Serious Vulnerabilities in Georgia's Online Voter Registration System*, Medium (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://medium.com/@mattbernhard/serious-vulnerabilities-in-georgias-online-voter-registration-system-cc319cbbe3d8>.

whether they have been exploited in any way, these mistakes could possibly be the result of vulnerabilities being exploited to change or delete voter information.<sup>5</sup>

13. On information and belief, several computer security and election system experts looked at the code underlying the My Voter Page website and concluded that voter data could be easily accessed and changed. The My Voter Page system does not have the capability to track changes made to voter data so it is not possible to determine the extent to which voter information has been changed.<sup>6</sup>

The Secretary of State Has Long Known About these Vulnerabilities and Has Politicized and Exacerbated, Rather than Remedied, Them.

14. On information and belief, multiple parties notified both the Georgia Secretary of State and national intelligence officials of the security vulnerabilities.

15. As early as 2015, one of Defendant's own employees sent out personally identifiable information to twelve news media and political organizations.<sup>7</sup> Defendant was aware of this breach at the time, and claimed that

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<sup>5</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Georgia's Voter Registration System Like 'Open Bank Safe Door,'* Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/exclusive-georgias-voter-registration-system-like-open-bank-safe-door/>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Kemp's Aggressive Gambit to Distract From Election Security Crisis,* Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018),

“all voter information is secure and safe.”<sup>8</sup> Defendant also claimed to be engaging Ernst & Young to review the Secretary of State’s information technology policies and procedures.<sup>9</sup>

16. In August 2016, on information and belief, a computer researcher named Logan Lamb accessed the entire Georgia voter registration database and all personally identifiable information on the database. Lamb found that the system was not password protected and could be rewritten. The State was notified.<sup>10</sup>

17. It was also reported in August 2016 that Defendant rejected the federal government’s efforts to assist states with election security, and said that a hack of Georgia’s voting system “is not probable at all, the way our systems are set up.”<sup>11</sup>

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<https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/kemps-aggressive-gambit-to-distract-from-election-security-crisis/>.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> Eric Geller, *Elections security: Federal help or power grab?*, Politico (Aug. 28, 2016), <https://www.politico.com/story/2016/08/election-cyber-security-georgia-227475>.

18. In February 2017, on information and belief, a security engineer named Christopher Grayson joined Lamb in finding that the problem persisted and that voter information remained unprotected.<sup>12</sup>

19. These security breaches were the basis for a lawsuit filed against Defendant in 2017 by the Coalition for Good Governance.<sup>13</sup>

20. Despite these continued warnings and the clear indications that Georgia's voting system was vulnerable, Defendant continued to reject federal election security assistance.<sup>14</sup>

21. In the last week, the Defendant has been specifically alerted to these vulnerabilities and rather than using the resource of the State to address and fix the problems, the Defendant has instead waged a political counter attack against the Democratic Party.<sup>15</sup> In so doing, he has not only failed to remedy the problem, but

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<sup>12</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Kemp's Aggressive Gambit to Distract From Election Security Crisis*, Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/kemps-aggressive-gambit-to-distract-from-election-security-crisis/>.

<sup>13</sup> Verified Amended Election Contest and Compliant for Declaratory Relief, Injunctive Relief, Damages, and Writs of Mandamus, *Curling v. Kemp*, No. 2017CV292233 (Fulton Cty. Ga. Super. Ct. Aug. 18, 2017).

<sup>14</sup> Johnny Kauffman, *Georgia Says No Thanks To In-Depth Election Security Help From Feds*, WABE 90.1FM (Feb. 14, 2018), <https://www.wabe.org/georgia-says-no-thanks-election-security-help-feds/>.

<sup>15</sup> Richard Fausset & Alan Blinder, *Brian Kemp's Office, Without Citing Evidence, Investigates Georgia Democrats Over Alleged 'Hack,'* New York Times (Nov. 4,

he has advertised the vulnerability of the system to those who may want to interfere with voters' exercise of their right to vote.

22. On Saturday, November 3, 2018, on information and belief, David Cross, a lawyer at Morrison Foerster, notified John Salter, a lawyer who represents Defendant and the Secretary of State's office, of potential vulnerabilities in the Georgia election system website.<sup>16</sup> Cross had been contacted on Friday by a Georgia resident with concerns about the state's My Voter Page website.<sup>17</sup> The resident had been looking at his information on the My Voter Page site and realized that he was able to access, and not just view, files on his voter information page.<sup>18</sup> In addition to Salter, Cross also reached out to the FBI to inform them of this potential vulnerability.<sup>19</sup>

23. On information and belief, Bruce Brown, a lawyer for the non-profit Coalition for Good Governance, also notified Defendant's lawyers of the security

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2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/04/us/politics/georgia-elections-kemp-voters-hack.html>.

<sup>16</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Kemp's Aggressive Gambit to Distract From Election Security Crisis*, Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/kemps-aggressive-gambit-to-distract-from-election-security-crisis/>.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

vulnerabilities on Saturday, November 3, 2018 “in confidence...so that something could be done about it without exposing the vulnerability to the public.”<sup>20</sup>

24. Separately, on Saturday, November 3, 2018, the Georgia Democratic Party was informed that the state’s voter registration system possessed security vulnerabilities.<sup>21</sup> The Georgia Democratic Party received an email containing data that allegedly demonstrated the system vulnerabilities.<sup>22</sup> Sara Tindall Ghazal, Voter Protection Director for the Democratic Party of Georgia, reached out to cybersecurity experts, who confirmed the problems with the system.<sup>23</sup> Ms. Ghazal forwarded an email that the Georgia Democratic Party received to the cybersecurity experts after receiving confirmation of the security vulnerabilities.<sup>24</sup> On information and belief, by mid-day Saturday, those experts notified Georgia officials of the issue.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Georgia’s Voter Registration System Like ‘Open Bank Safe Door,’* Who. What. Why. (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://whowhatwhy.org/2018/11/04/exclusive-georgias-voter-registration-system-like-open-bank-safe-door/>.

<sup>21</sup> Jordan Wilkie & Timothy Pratt, *Kemp’s Aggressive Gambit to Distract From Election Security Crisis*, Who. What. Why., Nov. 4, 2018.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*

<sup>25</sup> Jack Gillum, Jessica Huseman, Mike Tigas, Jeff Kao, & Stephen Fowler, *Georgia Officials Quietly Patched Security Hole They Said Didn’t Exist*, ProPublica (Nov. 5, 2018), <https://www.propublica.org/article/georgia-officials-quietly-patched-security-holes-they-said-did-not-exist>.

25. On Sunday, November 4, 2018, Defendant's office reacted to that weekend's news by issuing a political press release, announcing that the office had opened an investigation on Saturday, November 3, 2018, into the Georgia Democratic Party for potential criminal cyber activity. The statement read:

**AFTER FAILED HACKING ATTEMPT, SOS LAUNCHES INVESTIGATION INTO GEORGIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

ATLANTA – After a failed attempt to hack the state's voter registration system, the Secretary of State's office opened an investigation into the Democratic Party of Georgia on the evening of Saturday, November 3, 2018. Federal partners, including the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Bureau of Investigation, were immediately alerted.

"While we cannot comment on the specifics of an ongoing investigation, I can confirm that the Democratic Party of Georgia is under investigation for possible cyber crimes," said Candice Broce, Press Secretary. "We can also confirm that no personal data was breached and our system remains secure."

26. Later on Sunday, November 4, 2018, Defendant's office released another statement on the investigation. The statement read:

**SOS RELEASES MORE DETAILS OVER FAILED CYBERATTACK, OFFICIALLY REQUESTS FBI TO INVESTIGATE**

ATLANTA – The Secretary of State's Office issues the following update:

"We opened an investigation into the Democratic Party of Georgia after receiving information from our legal team about failed efforts to breach the online voter registration system and My Voter Page. We are working with our private sector vendors and investigators to

review data logs. We have contacted our federal partners and formally requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate these possible cyber crimes. The Secretary of State's office will release more information as it becomes available."

27. On that same day, Defendant addressed the allegations and the investigation, and a spokeswoman for Defendant, Candice Broce, alleged that Democrats possessed software that could pull personal voter data from the voter registration sites.<sup>26</sup> The Georgia Democratic Party maintains, however, that the email in question came from someone outside of the organization and that the Party only forwarded it to cyber security experts.<sup>27</sup>

28. The accusations from Defendant brought greater national (and likely international) attention to the vulnerabilities on the state's My Voter Page and voter registration sites.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Amy Gardner, *Concerns About Voter Access Dominate Final Stretch Before Election Day*, Washington Post (Nov. 4, 2018), [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/concerns-about-voter-access-dominate-final-stretch-before-election-day/2018/11/04/b660c216-dece-11e8-b732-3c72cbf131f2\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.29e8db7b1623](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/concerns-about-voter-access-dominate-final-stretch-before-election-day/2018/11/04/b660c216-dece-11e8-b732-3c72cbf131f2_story.html?utm_term=.29e8db7b1623).

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*

<sup>28</sup> See, e.g., *Security experts say Georgia's voter database vulnerable to hackers*, Associated Press (Nov. 5, 2018), <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/elections/security-experts-say-georgia-s-voter-database-vulnerable-hackers-n931266>; Richard Fausset & Alan Blinder, *Brian Kemp's Office, Without Citing Evidence, Investigates Georgia Democrats Over Alleged 'Hack'*, New York Times (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/04/us/politics/georgia-elections-kemp-voters-hack.html>; Rick Hasen, *Brian Kemp Just Engaged in a Last-Minute Act of*

29. Defendant's decision to publicize the vulnerabilities of Georgia's election system by attacking the Georgia Democratic Party, while the vulnerabilities persisted, marked a continuation of Defendant's past denials that Georgia's voting system was exploitable.

30. Furthermore, the statement by Defendant's spokeswoman that the "system remains secure"<sup>29</sup> was belied by revelations that, hours later, State officials attempted to fix the very problems that had been exposed.<sup>30</sup>

31. On information and belief, there were no fixes to these vulnerabilities for several hours after this national publicity. On information and belief, vulnerabilities in the system persisted at least throughout Sunday, November 4.

### **COUNT I**

#### **Violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution**

32. Plaintiff repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

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*Banana-Republic Level Voter Manipulation in Georgia*, Slate (Nov. 4, 2018), <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/11/georgia-governor-candidate-brian-kemp-attempts-last-minute-banana-republic-style-voter-manipulation.html>.

<sup>29</sup> See supra ¶ 19.

<sup>30</sup> Jack Gillum, Jessica Huseman, Mike Tigas, Jeff Kao, & Stephen Fowler, *Georgia Officials Quietly Patched Security Hole They Said Didn't Exist*, ProPublica (Nov. 5, 2018), <https://www.propublica.org/article/georgia-officials-quietly-patched-security-holes-they-said-did-not-exist>.

33. The Fourteenth Amendment protects an individual's right to vote from deprivation without due process of law.

34. In the circumstances alleged here, Defendant's knowing maintenance of an unsecure voter registration database and his amplification of public attention to the security vulnerabilities of the voter registration database just prior to the election have recklessly exposed voters to potential tampering with their voter registration records. The increased risk to voters coupled with the State's existing provisional ballot counting scheme, *see* Ga. Code §§ 21-2-418, 419, under which provisional ballots will not be counted for voters whose names are not found on the voter registration list, risk denying the right of eligible Georgia citizens to vote in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause.

35. Defendant, and his agents and employees, have materially increased the risk that eligible voters have been and will be unlawfully removed from the State voter registration database or will have their voter registration information unlawfully manipulated in a manner that prevents them from casting a regular ballot, by knowingly maintaining an unsecure voter registration database and then exacerbating the security risk by exposing the vulnerabilities in the State voter registration database to increased publicity just prior to the election.

36. As a result of Defendant's actions, eligible voters who have taken the required steps to register and maintain their registrations may—through no fault of their own—arrive at the polls on Election Day and not be permitted to cast a regular ballot.

37. Defendant's actions have created a situation that is fundamentally unfair to voters whose registrations are altered or removed. Those voters reasonably relied on the procedures and systems established by Defendant and the State and should not be deprived of their votes in violation of the Due Process Clause.

38. Georgia's provisional ballot counting scheme fails to provide adequate process here. A voter's provisional ballot is not counted unless elections officials affirmatively determine that the voter is duly registered and the State's information may not be accurate at the time the provisional ballots are counted, as a result of Secretary Kemp's reckless maintenance of the State voter registration database and his publication of its vulnerability just before the election.

## **COUNT II**

### **Undue Burden on the Right to Vote in Violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution**

39. Plaintiff repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

40. The Fourteenth Amendment protects individuals' right to vote from unreasonable burdens imposed by the State. *See generally Burdick v. Takushi*, 504 U.S. 428, 434 (1992); *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780, 789 (1983).

41. In the circumstances alleged here, Defendant's maintenance of an unsecure voter registration database, his exposure of the security vulnerabilities of the voter registration database to further publicity just prior to the election, and the State's provisional ballot counting scheme impose a severe burden on individuals' right to vote.

42. Defendant, and his agents and employees, have materially increased the risk that eligible voters have been and will be unlawfully removed from the State voter registration database or will have their voter registration information unlawfully manipulated in a manner that prevents them from casting a regular ballot, by maintaining an unsecure voter registration database and then exacerbating the security risk by publicizing the vulnerabilities in the State voter registration database just prior to the election. Preventing eligible, properly registered voters from casting regular ballots constitutes a severe burden on their right to vote.

43. Georgia's provisional ballot counting scheme exacerbates the severe burden on the right to vote of individuals who were prevented from casting ballots

as a result of Defendant's actions. A voter's provisional ballot is not counted unless election officials affirmatively determine that the voter is duly registered. The State's voter registration information may not be accurate at the time the provisional ballots are counted, as a result of Defendant's reckless maintenance of the State voter registration database and his publication of its vulnerability just before the election.

44. Furthermore, under the current provisional ballot system, it may be impossible for voters to provide adequate proof of their registration, because the information in the State voter registration database may have been manipulated at the time the provisional ballots are counted.

**COUNT III**  
**Violation of the Help America Vote Act, 52 U.S.C. § 21082**

45. Plaintiff repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

46. The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires the State to provide an individual who is not on the voter registration list or whom an election official asserts is not eligible to vote with a provisional ballot, and the statute requires the State to count the ballot if the voter is eligible to vote. *See* 52 U.S.C. 21082(a).

47. In light of Defendant's maintenance of an unsecure voter registration database and his publication of the vulnerability of the database just before an

election, the State's provisional ballot counting scheme violates HAVA. Specifically, the process by which the State determines whether a provisional ballot is valid, and the fact that the voter registration database may have been manipulated, violates HAVA's requirement that the State count eligible voters' provisional ballots.

**COUNT IV**  
**Violation of Art. II, Sec. 1 of the Georgia Constitution**

48. Plaintiff repeats the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them as though fully set forth herein.

49. Article II, Section 1 of the Georgia Constitution provides that every person who is qualified to vote "shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people." A "qualified elector is guaranteed the fundamental right to vote provided he or she uses one of the procedures put forth by the legislature...." *Democratic Party of Georgia, Inc. v. Perdue*, 288 Ga. 720, 727 (2011).

50. As a result of Defendant's maintenance of an unsecure voter registration database and his publication of the vulnerability of the database just before an election, qualified voters who have duly registered and attempted to cast a ballot in compliance with the procedures put forth by the legislature may be deprived of their fundamental right to vote.

51. Defendant's actions and his implementation of state law therefore violate the Georgia Constitution.

**COUNT V**  
**Violation of Ga. Code § 21-2-211**

52. Plaintiffs repeat the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporate them as though fully set forth herein.

53. The Georgia Code requires the Secretary of State to "maintain a list of all eligible and qualified registered electors" in the State. Ga. Code § 21-2-211.

54. As a result of Defendant's maintenance of an unsecure voter registration database and his publication of the vulnerability of the database just before an election, the State voter registration list may not contain all eligible and qualified registered electors.

55. Defendant's actions and his implementation of state law therefore violate Section 21-2-211 of the Georgia Code.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court issue declaratory and injunctive relief if there is a statistically significant<sup>31</sup> increase in the percentage of

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<sup>31</sup>A simple and commonplace statistical method called regression analysis could determine whether the provisional ballot rate is higher in the 2018 election than in the last three federal elections, to a level where the Court could be confident to a 95% level (an accepted standard for academic research) that the variation was not due to natural fluctuation.

provisional ballots cast (relative to the total number of votes) in the 2018 elections as compared to the 2012, 2014, and 2016 elections: (1) statewide, (2) in counties where the percentage of minority or African American voters is greater than the statewide percentage, or (3) in Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, and DeKalb counties (the only counties with at least 700 thousand residents).

If these conditions are met, Plaintiff requests that the Court:

- (1) Declare that Defendant's maintenance of the State voter registration database, his publication of its security vulnerabilities, and his implementation of the State's provisional ballot laws violate the Due Process Clause and impose a severe burden on the right to vote in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment;
- (2) Declare that Defendant's maintenance of the State voter registration database, his publication of its security vulnerabilities, and his implementation of the State's provisional ballot laws violate HAVA;
- (3) Declare that Defendant's maintenance of the State voter registration database, his publication of its security vulnerabilities, and his implementation of the State's provisional ballot laws violate the Georgia Constitution and the Georgia Code;

(4) Issue a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, and permanent injunction, enjoining Defendant from enforcing the State's provisional ballot laws, to the extent such enforcement violates federal law. Specifically, Plaintiffs ask:

- a. Defendant shall issue an Order to the election superintendent of each county or municipality directing that the superintendent generate a list (hereafter, "the List") of individuals who cast a provisional ballot during early voting period between October 15, 2018 and November 5, 2018, and during regular voting on November 6, 2018 within his or her county or municipality on the basis that the voter's name was not found on the official list of registered voters. The List shall be transmitted electronically to each clerk and counsel for Plaintiff by 9:00 a.m. November 9, 2018.
- b. Defendant shall issue an Order to the board of registrars of each county or municipality stating, at a minimum, as follows:
  - i. Voters on the List who voted by provisional ballot shall be verified before other provisional ballots.
  - ii. Voters on the List who fill out a provisional ballot shall be presumed to be validly registered and eligible and entitled to

vote. Only upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that a voter is not eligible and entitled to vote or was not registered shall the registrars reject that voter's provisional ballot.

- iii. No ballot shall be rejected based solely on information in the My Voter database. Information that can be considered as evidence that a voter is ineligible or not properly registered includes, but is not limited to: a copy of the voter's registration application demonstrating that it was not timely or that the voter was ineligible, information from the Georgia Secretary of State or law enforcement agencies showing that the individual is disqualified from voting because he or she is serving a sentence of confinement or parole for a felony conviction, and information from the Division of Motor Vehicles motor voter database showing that the individual moved out of the voting jurisdiction or has not attained voting age.
- iv. For any voter on the List whose provisional ballot has been rejected, the board of registrars shall, no later than 4 business days after the election, contact the voter in writing by

forwardable mail and by telephone, where provided, stating his or her ballot has been rejected at the county level and the reason for the rejection and provide Defendant with a copy of the writing. Plaintiffs' counsel shall have input into the language of the written notice.

- v. For each ballot rejected at the county level of a voter on the List, the registrars shall provide Defendant with a copy of the provisional ballot affidavit no later than the end of the 3-day provisional ballot review period, along with the evidence used to make the determination of ineligibility.
- c. Defendant shall conduct an independent review of each ballot rejected at the county level and order the superintendent to count the ballot of any voter whose ballot was rejected in violation of this clear and convincing evidence standard no later than 1 week prior to the certification of the statewide results. If Defendant affirms the rejection, then Defendant shall inform the designated representative of Plaintiff's counsel and provide access to the evidence upon which the determination was made within 1 business day and in no event later than 4 business days prior to the certification of the statewide results.

- d. The Parties shall enter into a protective order to preserve the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information.
- e. The Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over any disputes over voter eligibility arising after Defendant's review.

(5) Award Plaintiff the costs of this proceeding, including reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred in this action, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988; and

(6) Grant Plaintiff such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: November 5, 2018

DLA PIPER LLP

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JS 44 (Rev 08/18)

**CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing 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 NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM)

<p><b>I. (a) PLAINTIFFS</b> Common Cause Georgia</p> <p><b>(b)</b> County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Fulton</u> <i>(EXCEPT IN US PLAINTIFF CASES)</i></p> <p><b>(c)</b> Attorneys <i>(List Name, Address, and Telephone Number)</i> Christopher G Campbell DLA Piper LLP (US) One Atlantic Center 1201 West Peachtree Street Suite 2800 Atlanta, GA 30309-3450 (404) 736-7808</p>	<p><b>DEFENDANTS</b> Georgia Secretary of State's Office; KEMP, Brian P.; Secretary of State</p> <p>County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____ <i>(IN US PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)</i></p> <p>NOTE IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED</p> <p>Attorneys <i>(If Known)</i></p>
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<p><b>II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION</b> <i>(Place an "X" in One Box Only)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question <i>(U.S. Government Not a Party)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity <i>(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)</i></p>	<p><b>III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES</b> <i>(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)</i></p> <table style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td style="width:30%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;"><b>PTF</b></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;"><b>DEF</b></td> <td style="width:40%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;"><b>PTF</b></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;"><b>DEF</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td>Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td>Foreign Nation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> </tr> </table>		<b>PTF</b>	<b>DEF</b>		<b>PTF</b>	<b>DEF</b>	Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	<b>PTF</b>	<b>DEF</b>		<b>PTF</b>	<b>DEF</b>																				
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4																				
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5																				
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6																				

IV. NATURE OF SUIT <i>(Place an "X" in One Box Only)</i>		Click here for <a href="#">Nature of Suit Code Descriptions</a>			
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<p><b>PERSONAL INJURY</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <p><b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	LABOR	PROPERTY RIGHTS	SOCIAL SECURITY
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<p><b>Habeas Corpus:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <p><b>Other:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))
			IMMIGRATION	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	

**V. ORIGIN** *(Place an "X" in One Box Only)*

1 Original Proceeding     2 Removed from State Court     3 Remanded from Appellate Court     4 Reinstated or Reopened     5 Transferred from Another District *(specify)*     6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer     8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing *(Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity)*  
 U.S. Constitution, 52 U.S.C. § 21082, Georgia Constitution; Ga. Code § 21-2-211

Brief description of cause  
 Violations of U.S. Const. amend. XIV, Help America Vote Act, Georgia Constitution, and Georgia Code.

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P    **DEMAND \$** \_\_\_\_\_    CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint  
**JURY DEMAND:**     Yes     No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY** *(See instructions)*

JUDGE Hon. Amy Mil Totenberg    DOCKET NUMBER 1 17-cv-02989-AT

DATE 11/05/2018    SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD  
/s Christopher G. Campbell

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

RECEIPT # \_\_\_\_\_    AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_    APPLYING IFP \_\_\_\_\_    JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_    MAG JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44**

## Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading 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. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below:
- United States plaintiff (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - United States defendant (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - Federal question (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331 where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - Diversity of citizenship (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions](#).
- V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes:
- Original Proceedings (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
  - Removed from State Court (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - Remanded from Appellate Court (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - Reinstated or Reopened (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - Transferred from Another District (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
  - Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute 47 USC 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII Requested in Complaint.** Class Action: Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand: In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand: Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

**Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

AO 440 (Rev 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Northern District of Georgia

COMMON CAUSE GEORGIA, as an organization

Plaintiff(s)

v.

BRIAN KEMP, in his official capacity as Secretary of State of Georgia

Defendant(s)

Civil Action No. 18-cv-

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) BRIAN KEMP
Georgia Secretary of State
214 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
(844) 753-7825

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

Christopher G. Campbell
One Atlantic Center
1201 West Peachtree Street, Suite 2800
Atlanta, GA 30309-3450
(404) 736-7808
christopher.campbell@dlapiper.com

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk