

STATE OF MINNESOTA

JAN 31 2011

IN SUPREME COURT

FILED

Appellate Court File No.: A11-152

Sara Hippert, Dave Greer, Linda Markowitz, Dee Dee Larson, Ben Maas, Gregg Peppin, Randy Penrod and Charles Roulet, individually and on behalf of all citizens and voting residents of Minnesota similarly situated,

**RESPONDENT ROBERT HIIVALA'S
RESPONSE TO PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL
REDISTRICTING PANEL**

Petitioners,

v.

Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State of Minnesota; and Robert Hiivala, Wright County Auditor, individually and on behalf of all Minnesota County Chief Election Officers,

Respondents.

Respondent Robert Hiivala objects to and opposes the petition to appoint a three judge redistricting panel in the above referenced matter.

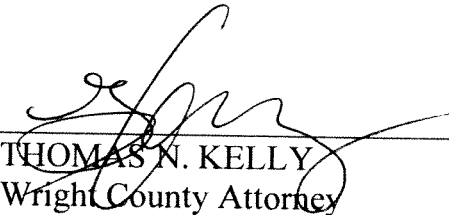
In making this response Respondent Hiivala reasserts the arguments raised by respondent Ritchie. This matter is premature and it is not ripe. The legislature must first be given the opportunity to redistrict prior to any court intervention.

The respondent does not object to Secretary Ritchie's request to change venue. Moving this matter to Ramsey County would most likely expedite judicial efficiency and economy. Furthermore, the facilities in Ramsey County or at the Minnesota Judicial Center are better suited to handle the logistics associated with a three judge panel.

Respectfully Submitted,

THOMAS N. KELLY, COUNTY ATTORNEY
WRIGHT COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Date: January 27, 2011



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