

FILED

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
SPECIAL REDISTRICTING PANEL
A21-0243
A21-0546**

December 8, 2021

**OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS**

Peter S. Wattson, Joseph Mansky, Nancy B. Greenwood, Mary E. Kupper, Douglas W. Backstrom and James E. Hougas III, individually and on behalf of all citizens and voting residents of Minnesota similarly situated, and League of Women Voters Minnesota,

Plaintiffs,

and

Paul Anderson, Ida Lano, Chuck Brusven, Karen Lane, Joel Hineman, Carol Wegner, and Daniel Schonhardt,

**Declaration of Monica Bryand
in Support of the Corrie Plaintiffs'
Proposed Redistricting Plan**

Plaintiff-Intervenors

vs.

Steve Simon, Secretary of State of Minnesota; and Kendra Olson, Carver County Elections and Licensing Manager, individually and on behalf of all Minnesota county chief election officers,

Defendants,

and

Frank Sachs, Dagny Heimisdottir, Michael Arulfo, Tanwi Prigge, Jennifer Guertin, Garrison O'Keith McMurtrey, Mara Lee Glubka, Jeffrey Strand, Danielle Main, and Wayne Grimmer,

Plaintiffs,

and

Dr. Bruce Corrie, Shelly Diaz, Alberder
Gillespie, Xiongpa Lee, Abdirazak
Mahboub, Aida Simon, Beatriz Winters,
Common Cause, OneMinnesota.org, and
Voices for Racial Justice,

Plaintiff-Intervenors,

vs.

Steve Simon, Secretary of State of Minnesota,

Defendant.

I, Monica Bryand, declare as follows:

1. I am a second Mexican American resident of Saint Paul's West Side. I've lived on the West Side for over 45 years and have extended family that have been here for generations.
2. Saint Paul's West Side is a distinct and unique community, not only because it is the only part of Saint Paul on the "west" side of the Mississippi River, but because the West Side is home to the largest Latino community in Saint Paul. More than a quarter of the West Side is Latino, compared to less than 10 percent across the rest of Saint Paul.
3. People of Mexican descent began to come to Saint Paul in the early 20th century, around the time of World War I. Many of these people settled in the West Side, and many Latino families in the West Side have resided here for generations, spanning nearly a century. In the early 90s the diversity of the area exploded to include other Latinos such as Puerto Ricans,
4. Many individuals that settled in the West Side were drawn to Saint Paul for job opportunities in the meatpacking and railroad industries, and as more individuals came with their families seeking opportunity, the West Side grew exponentially, leading even to a housing shortage in the neighborhood at the end of the 1930s. The Latino community in the West Side continued to grow throughout the 20th century, particularly in the 1980s and the boom of immigration from not only Mexico but Central America.
5. The Latino community in the West Side has persisted despite challenges across the decades, through floods in the 1950s and "urban renewal" projects that displaced

community members in the 1960s. As the community has expanded so have culturally specific community resources such as La Clinica, afterschool community library programs in Spanish, and adult daycare that is focused on celebrating the cultural similarities among its Spanish-speaking patients.

6. The heart of the Latino community in Saint Paul is in the West Side, known as District del Sol, home to iconic Latino-owned businesses that have been in our community for generations, from restaurants like Boca Chica to grocers such as El Burrito Mercado. Such businesses have been mainstays in the West Side and anchor the Latino community's continue strength in this region. Approximately 50 percent of the businesses within the primary commercial district of the West Side, District Del Sol, are Latino-owned.
7. The impact of the predominantly Mexican culture and community is readily visible throughout the West Side, from our diverse business district featuring foods, clothing, and art from various regions of Mexico and Latin America, to public art projects, including murals that adorn its walls, and having a main street named after the Mexican American historical figure Cesar Chavez.
8. Each year, the Cinco de Mayo celebration in Saint Paul is not only the largest in the Twin Cities, but one of the largest in the United States. For decades prior to challenges presented by COVID-19, the Cinco De Mayo event in the West Side has brought together families, friends, and community members for live entertainment, a parade, and so much more. It's been known as a place where all Minnesotans gather to celebrate the many contributions of Minnesotans from Mexican heritage.
9. The West Side of Saint Paul is one of the oldest Mexican and Chicano communities in Minnesota. The cultural strength and economic vibrancy unique to this predominantly Mexican American community demands protection in the redistricting process. The Latino community and the West Side of Saint Paul must be kept intact to ensure that community members have the opportunity to elect representatives that better serve our unique and dynamic interests and that our voting power is not diluted. The proposed districts, including House District 67A covering the West Side, presented by the Corrie plaintiffs keep our community intact and ensure effective representation.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dated: December 3, 2021


Monica Bryand (Dec 3, 2021 19:07 CST)

Monica Bryand

Monica Bryand St Paul West Side Declarant

Final Audit Report

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