EXHIBIT A

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

County of Fulton, Fulton County Board	:	
of Elections, Stuart L. Ulsh, in his	•	
official capacity as County	•	
Commissioner of Fulton County and	:	No. 277 M.D. 2021
in his capacity as a resident, taxpayer	•	No. 3 MAP 2022
and elector in Fulton County, and Randy	:	
H. Bunch, in his official capacity as	:	
County Commissioner of Fulton County	•	
and in his capacity as a resident,	•	
taxpayer and elector of Fulton County,	•	
Petitioners/Appellees	•	
	•	
V.	•	
	•	
Secretary of the Commonwealth,	•	
Respondent/Appellan	t:	

<u>ORDER</u>

NOW, August 23, 2023, the Special Master hereby ORDERS as

follows:

1. The evidentiary hearing for purposes of the Special Master's appointment of a neutral third-party escrow agent currently fixed for Monday, August 28, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 3001, Third Floor, Pennsylvania Judicial Center, 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is hereby **RESCHEDULED to begin at 9:00 a.m. on the same date in the same place**. If necessary, the hearing shall reconvene on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., in the same location.

2. The parties are directed to serve all Notices to Attend and Subpoenas on their respective witnesses no later than Friday, August 25, 2023, in conformance with the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure. Notices to Attend and Subpoenas served prior to issuance of this Order, indicating that the evidentiary hearing would begin at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 28, 2023, need not be reserved to reflect the rescheduling set forth in Paragraph 1 above.

3. Respondent/Appellant (Secretary) shall present its evidence and witness testimony beginning on Monday, August 28, 2023, and the parties shall endeavor to complete direct and cross examination of the Secretary's witnesses by the conclusion of this first day of the hearing.

4. Petitioner/Appellees (collectively, Fulton County) shall present its evidence and witness testimony following conclusion of the Secretary's evidence. The parties shall endeavor to expeditiously complete direct and cross examination of Fulton County's witnesses.

5. Fulton County is directed to retain the services of a court reporter for the evidentiary hearing. The court reporter shall be prepared for Court to be in session outside of normal Court hours. The court reporter shall provide a rough transcript to the Court and counsel at the conclusion of each day of the hearing and expedite preparation of a transcript following the conclusion of the hearing.

RENÉE COHN JUBELIRER, President Judge of the

RENÉE COHN JUBELIRER, President Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Appointed as Special Master



EXHIBIT B

AFFIDAVIT OF BENJAMIN R. COTTON 24 August 2023

I, Ben Cotton, being duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I am over the age of 18, and I understand and believe in the obligations of an oath. I make this affidavit of my own free will and based on first-hand information and my own personal observations.

2. I am the founder of CyFIR, LLC (CyFIR).

3. I have a master's degree in Information Technology Management from the University of Maryland University College. I have numerous technical certifications, including the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP), Network+, and Certified CyFIR Forensics and Incident Response Examiner.

4. I have over twenty-five (25) years of experience performing computer forensics and other digital systems analysis.

5. I have over eighteen (19) years of experience as an instructor of computer forensics and incident response. This experience includes thirteen (13) years of experience teaching students on the Guidance Software (now OpenText) EnCase Investigator, the EnCase Enterprise software and the collection and preservation of digital data.

6. I have testified as an expert witness in state and federal courts and before the United States Congress.

7. I regularly lead engagements involving digital forensics for law firms, corporations, and government agencies and am experienced with the digital acquisition of evidence under the under the Federal Rules of Evidence.

8. In the course of my experience I have forensically collected digital evidence from thousands of Windows, Linux, MacOS, and cellular devices.

9. In the course of my experience I have forensically collected digital evidence from thousands of external digital devices such as USB drives, thumb drives, and SD Cards.

10. I have supported legal teams in the forensic preservation and examination of Dominion voting systems in Arizona, Michigan, and Georgia.

11. The dominion voting system individual components, such as the Election Management System (EMS), Image Cast Central (ICC), ImageCast Precinct (ICP), ImageCast X (ICX) Ballot Marking Device (BMD) and Adjudication Workstations, contain specialized applications running on Windows and Linux operating systems. These components and systems can easily be forensically preserved in accordance with the digital acquisition of evidence as outlined the under the Federal Rules of Evidence and the National Institute of Justice Digital Evidence Policies and Procedures.

12. Forensic preservation of all data on a digital device is critical to the preservation process, especially if litigation is either anticipated or ongoing. If a given device or system is currently in a powered down state, it is imperative that the device's hard drive and other digital storage be forensically imaged to preserve system metadata dates and times, data integrity of the device and the admissibility of the evidence into the US legal system. Simply powering up a Windows or Linux operating system will change the date/time metadata for tens of thousands of files, thus interfering with the analysis of that system and calling into question the integrity of the data on the system.

13. It is critical to the admissibility and quality of subsequent analysis that the system to be preserved is maintained in a data state that is as close to the time period as possible. If the system to be preserved is powered on, commonly termed as live, at the point that it is to be preserved then the volatile memory should be imaged first followed by a forensic acquisition of the hard drive and other storage devices.

14. If a device that is to be preserved is not imaged immediately and maintained in a powered on state, there is a technical certainty that the data contained on the hard drive and possibly other digital storage devices will be changed. The changing of the data on the system will not require interactive inputs for these changes to take place. As a matter of the normal operating system functions, no matter if it is a Windows, Linux or MacOS operating system, if the system is powered on, the system will automatically change logs and perform automated processes (like antivirus scans, scheduled tasks and other operations) that will change the dates and times of files, over write log file entries, modify system configuration settings and change data file contents.

15. It is my experience that the Dominion voting system components have communications devices in the form of Network Interface Cards (NIC), WiFi modems, and Cellular Modems installed by the manufacturer on the mother boards of the systems. Depending on the configuration of the system, these communications devices can automatically connect to remote locations and devices if the systems are powered on. If these devices are allowed to connect to remote locations it is possible for authorized or unauthorized parties to remotely modify the component.

SIGNED UNDER THE PAINS AND PENALTIES OF PERJURY THIS 24th DAY OF August 2023.

Benjamin R. Cotton

State of Montana County of FI

This instrument was signed or acknowledged before me on 08-24-23 by Benjamin RC (Name of signer)

(Notary Signature) [Affix seal/stamp to the left or below]



RYAN PETERSEN NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Kalispell, MT My Commission Expires April 29, 2025.

EXHIBIT C

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

County of Fulton, Fulton County Board	:	
of Elections, Stuart L. Ulsh, in his	:	
official capacity as County	:	
Commissioner of Fulton County and	:	No. 277 M.D. 2021
in his capacity as a resident, taxpayer	:	No. 3 MAP 2022
and elector in Fulton County, and Randy	:	
H. Bunch, in his official capacity as	:	
County Commissioner of Fulton County	:	
and in his capacity as a resident,	:	
taxpayer and elector of Fulton County,	:	
Petitioners/Appellees	:	
	:	
V.	:	
	:	
Secretary of the Commonwealth,	:	
Respondent/Appellan	t:	

<u>ORDER</u>

NOW, August 23, 2023, upon consideration of Petitioners/Appellees' (collectively, Fulton County) Motion to Stay Proceedings, and Respondent/Appellant's (Secretary) answer in opposition thereto, the Motion to Stay Proceedings is DENIED.

Fulton County seeks a stay of the evidentiary hearing fixed for August 28, 2023, to determine a neutral third-party escrow agent to impound Fulton County's voting systems as directed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in *County of Fulton v. Secretary of the Commonwealth*, 292 A.3d 974, 1020 (Pa. 2023) (*Fulton I*). Fulton County asks for a stay based on its filing of a Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court (No. 23-96, filed May 27, 2023), challenging the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's decision in *Fulton I*. However, Fulton County has cited no procedural rule or relevant authority to support its request for stay. Accordingly, the Special Master will proceed as directed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, unless otherwise directed by the Supreme Court of the United States.

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RENÉE COHN JUBELIRER, President Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Appointed as Special Master



EXHIBIT D

In The Matter Of:

Fulton County Elections Board vs. Secretary of Commonwealth

No. 277 MD 2021 No. 3 MAP 2022 August 23, 2023

Media Court Reporting 216 West Front Street Media, PA 19063 610.566.0805 fax 610.566.0318 www.mediacourtreporting.com

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FULTON COUNTY ELECTIONS BOARD

SECRETARY OF COMMONWEALTH

No. 277 MD 2021 No. 3 MAP 2022

Proceedings held on Wednesday, 8/23/23

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am this day serving the Notice of Filing of Transcript upon the persons and in the manner indicated below, which service satisfies the requirements of PA RAP 121. Service of first-class mail addressed as follows:

The Honorable Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania 601 Commonwealth Avenue Harrisburg, PA 17106

Service by e-mail at following: tom@thomasjcarrolllaw.com, with agreement of: THOMAS J. CARROLL, ESQUIRE LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS J. CARROLL 610.419.6981 224 King Street Pottstown, PA 19464

Service by e-mail at following: rwiygul@hangley.com, with agreement of: ROBERT A. WIYGUL, ESQUIRE HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL PUDLIN & SCHILLER 215.496.7042 One Logan Square, 27th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dated Thursday, 8/24/23

Josephine Cardillo Media Court Reporting 216 West Front Street Media, PA 19063 610.566.0805 crjoze52@gmail.com

TO: The Honorable Renée Cohn Jubelirer

Please be advised that I have this date filed a transcript of the record in the case of: IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA FULTON COUNTY ELECTIONS BOARD V. SECRETARY OF COMMONWEALTH No. 277 MD 2021 No. 3 MAP 2022 Proceedings held on Wednesday, 8/23/23 See PA RAP 1922(c) DATED: Thursday, 8/24/23

> Josephine Cardillo Media Court Reporting 216 West Front Street Media, PA 19063 610.566.0805 crjoze52@gmail.com

COUNSEL APPEARED REMOTELY VIA PHONE AS FOLLOWS: THOMAS J. CARROLL, ESQUIRE LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS J. CARROLL 224 King Street Pottstown, PA 19464 610.419.6981 tom@thomasjcarrolllaw.com Counsel for Petitioner ROBERT A. WIYGUL, ESQUIRE HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL PUDLIN & SCHILLER One Logan Square, 27th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 215.496.7042 rwiygul@hangley.com Counsel for Respondent SHAWN N. GALLAGHER, ESQUIRE BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY Union Trust Building 501 Grant Street, Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412.562.8800 shawn.gallagher@bipc.com Counsel for Intervener Dominion Also Present: John Hill, Esquire, Hangley Aronchick Dimitri Marvrudis, Esquire Tucker Law Group Kathleen Jones Goldman, Esquire Buchanan Ingersoll Paul Ritchey, Court Staff Josephine Cardillo, Court Reporter

1 MR. RITCHEY: This is Paul, 2 administrative staff of the Commonwealth. 3 4 First, will the court reporter 5 please identify herself. COURT REPORTER: 6 Josephine 7 Cardillo, with Media Court Reporting, Media, PA. 8 MR. RITCHEY: Thank you. 9 First, counsel for the County of 10 Fulton, then counsel for the Secretary, 11 and then, finally, counsel for Intervener 12 Dominion Voting Systems, Incorporated. 13 ATTY CARROLL: 14 Yes. From 15 Fulton County, Thomas Carroll, Counsel for Fulton. 16 ATTY WIYGUL: Good afternoon. 17 18 For the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Robert Wiygul, from Hangley Aronchick 19 20 Segal Pudlin & Schiller, and I believe I have two co-counsels dialing in 21 22 separately, but I'll let them announce themselves. 23 ATTY HILL: Yeah, this is John 24 Hill, also from Hangley Aronchick Segal 25

1 Pudlin & Schiller, on behalf of the 2 Department. ATTY MARVRUDIS: And this is 3 Dimitri Marvrudis from the law firm of 4 5 Tucker Law Group, on behalf of the 6 Secretary. 7 ATTY GALLAGHER: I'm Shawn Gallagher, with Buchanan Ingersoll & 8 Rooney, on behalf of the Intervener 9 Dominion. 10 ATTY GOLDMAN: Kathleen Jones 11 Goldman, also with Buchanan Ingersoll & 12 13 Rooney on behalf of Dominion. 14 MR. RITCHEY: Thank you all. 15 Other than counsel, the court reporter, 16 and court staff, is anyone else present on the call or listening to the call? 17 18 (No response.) Okay. Hearing none, please stay 19 20 on the line. The conference will begin 21 shortly. 22 THE COURT: Good afternoon, 23 everyone. This is Judge Cohn I believe we have everyone 24 Jubelirer. on today's call. Thank you very much, 25

1 and you've all identified yourself, I 2 believe, for the court reporter who's 3 on. Can I be heard? 4 5 COURT REPORTER: This is Josephine Cardillo, the court reporter. 6 7 It sounded like, Your Honor, you were cutting out, but I will do my best with 8 what I can hear. 9 10 THE COURT: Thank you very 11 much. Please speak up if you cannot hear us. 12 Has everybody identified 13 Have all counsel identified 14 themselves? 15 themselves for you? 16 COURT REPORTER: Yes, they have. 17 18 THE COURT: Okay, excellent. Thank you. 19 20 As you all know, we are here 21 today for a prehearing conference in the 22 matter of County of Fulton et al., 23 Petitioners and Appellees versus the 24 Secretary of the Commonwealth, Respondent, 277 MD 2021 and as before the 25

Supreme Court 3 MAP 2022.

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And as indicated in the order issued yesterday, the primary focus of today's conference was to determine whether it is necessary for the thirdparty escrow agent to have experience or expertise with election security or election technology or whether an agent with expertise in convention of physical security be sufficient.

It is recognized that -- well, it appears that both parties, the Secretary and the County, have in the recent past proposed alternative escrow agents. The Secretary, the Insurance Evidence Services (IES) and Fulton County Auld & Associates Investigation, Inc.

18 So let me first ask the County -well, let me first ask the Secretary: 19 Do 20 you believe that we need to have a 21 third-party escrow agent with experience 22 in election security, or would some other entity be sufficient? 23 24 ATTY WIYGUL: Thank you, Your This is Robert Wiygul for the 25 Honor.

Secretary.

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We do believe that the escrow agent should have experience with the particular type of evidence that is at issue here, which is, as we interpret the Supreme Court order, voting equipment, but also potentially data stored on that voting equipment.

And so, I think I agree with Your 9 Honor's order that the purpose of the 10 11 escrow agreement is to secure physical evidence for potential use in future 12 litigation, but we think that the type of 13 14 evidence at issue and important for your 15 consideration here -- and we're prepared 16 to present evidence of the hearing on Monday on why that's the case and why the 17 18 specific type of evidence at issue calls for expertise and experience that would 19 20 not be possessed simply by entities that may have experience, other types of 21 22 physical evidence such as documents or, 23 you know, weapons, what have you. So I think, in some ways, you 24 know, the background in election 25

experience is important. Your Honor did point out that the Secretary at one point had proposed as an alternative candidate to be escrow agent Insurance Evidence Services.

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We made clear in our filings, I think, that we believe they would be our second-choice alternative. We believe that Pro V&V was head-and-shoulders the best candidate here.

But even Insurance Evidence 11 Services had expertise and experience 12 13 with storing pieces of technology with data on them, things of that nature. 14 We think that that is, you know, a bare-15 16 minimum qualification, but, again, we do think that there are aspects to the 17 18 security in preservation of election equipment that are unique and do call for 19 unique experience and expertise. 20 Well, I'm just THE COURT: 21 22 trying to understand why, if the equipment is locked in a room and even 23 if we have cameras that would show 24 who's coming and going and there's a 25

1 log and nobody is allowed to get in, 2 and if the equipment is taken offline in a way that the Court goes in there, 3 4 everybody watches, and your experts are 5 comfortable with, why would you need to have anything more than that? 6 7 ATTY WIYGUL: Well, Your Honor, we're prepared to present testimony on 8 Monday, but there are particular 9 environmental conditions -- you know, 10 humidity, temperature, et cetera --11 that are appropriate and necessary for 12 13 the preservation of different sorts of digital assets such as data stored on 14 15 election equipment. We think there's 16 particular expertise called for in that 17 respect. In addition, I think one 18 important aspect of the Supreme Court's 19 20 order was maintenance of chain of custody, and there are particular ways in 21 22 which the chain of custody of election 23 equipment is preserved that turn on particular nature of the evidence at 24 25 issue.

There are all sorts of different fields that are attached to different parts of the equipment. There are different ways of recording information to ensure that the chain of custody for each relevant component of an election machine is preserved.

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We don't know what condition the 8 machines are going to be in at the time 9 10 they are picked up and collected by the 11 escrow agent. The escrow agent may need to take steps at that point of 12 acquisition to document and inventory the 13 14 equipment so that an appropriate chain of 15 custody can be kept from that point 16 forward. That also requires specialized knowledge about election equipment and 17 18 the way the security of election equipment is maintained. 19

I'm also informed that it may be necessary to charge the machines in a particular way on a particular schedule in order to ensure the preservation of data required thereon and obviously doing that in a way that is safe and isn't

going to pose any sort of other issue regarding the preservation of the machine as a matter of requiring specialized experience and expertise. So, again, I don't pretend to be the expert here, but we have consulted extensively with our expert, and we do believe, for that reason and others, that

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9 this is a matter requiring specialized 10 knowledge, and it's not a role that any 11 party that might be suited to preserve 12 other types of physical evidence would be 13 qualified to play.

Well, if there was 14 THE COURT: 15 some sort of examination, I mean, would 16 have anticipated that both parties and their experts would probably want to be 17 18 present when the machines are, you know, examined and then transported 19 20 into the custody of whatever the escrow agent states would be. 21 And if there 22 are times when there needs to be maintenance or other work on the 23 24 machines pending this litigation, that both parties and their experts would 25

want to be there when the door is 1 2 opened and people are inside. So wouldn't that be sufficient 3 4 rather than requiring the actual escrow 5 agent to be the expert? I don't mean to put you on the 6 7 spot; I'm just trying to understand what the needs are here of what we have to do. 8 I'll tell you what. Let me ask the 9 10 County's attorney to weigh in here, and 11 then I can come back to you. ATTY CARROLL: Thank you, Your 12 13 Honor. First, I would ask, respectfully, 14 15 for a clarification from Attorney Wiygul 16 as to his position as to which vendor they're keeping. He just threw out the 17 18 possibility of a second one. I thought that had been rejected, so I would like 19 20 clarification on that before I answer the 21 next question. 22 THE COURT: I'm sorry. I was just talking in generalities, and I 23 think I'm the one who threw out this 24 Insurance Evidence Services. 25 I know,

1 in reviewing the filing in this case, I 2 saw that that had been recommended as an alternative as well as an Auld & 3 4 Associates investigation from Fulton 5 County. So I think I'm just trying in a 6 7 general fashion to find out what requirements the parties believe there 8 are for an escrow agent and whether the 9 10 third-party escrow agent needs to have 11 experience or expertise with election security. 12 Does the County have a position 13 14 about that? ATTY CARROLL: We should be 15 able to resolve this if we knew whether 16 there was more than one vendor being 17 18 proposed at this point. THE COURT: I'm not thinking 19 20 about who's being proposed; I'm trying to find what the type of vendor that 21 22 needs to be selected must be. Does the 23 County have a position? 24 ATTY CARROLL: I'm having a little difficulty hearing, and I 25

apologize.

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I think we might be able to resolve this matter if we understood that we have more than one vendor because we understood they were only proposing Pro V&V.

7 THE COURT: Right. We're
8 not -- let me be very clear, Attorney
9 Carroll.

10 Putting aside the vendor, the name, who's proposing the vendor, my 11 question for you is whether it is 12 13 necessary for whatever vendor is proposed 14 to have experience or expertise with election securities or election 15 16 technology or whether an agent with expertise in conventional physical 17 18 security be a sufficient third-party escrow agent here. If you have a 19 20 position.

ATTY CARROLL: Yes. Well, we would need to establish the issues that relate to the conflicts of interest that exist for their recommendation before I can answer that question,

1 address the competency of their 2 third-party vendor and protect the equipment. We would need to evaluate 3 4 that, too. 5 THE COURT: Okay. So, basically, what I understand you to be 6 7 saying, then, is that it's possible that -- it's not necessary for 8 the third-party escrow agent to have 9 the experience with the election 10 integrity, and that you're more 11 concerned about conflicts of interest 12 13 with the vendor as opposed to any 14 particular expertise. 15 Is that what I'm understanding? 16 ATTY CARROLL: Right, correct. And competency and qualifications as 17 18 well if they're going to be doing any kind of evaluations of these machines, 19 20 which they should not be doing. THE COURT: 21 Okay. So --22 ATTY CARROLL: And the 23 competency and the ability to secure 24 it. That's the question at hand. 25 The competency and THE COURT:

1	the ability to secure the machines?
2	ATTY CARROLL: Yes.
3	THE COURT: Okay. And so, how
4	much storage space would be needed;
5	does anybody know? Secretary, do you
6	know, Attorney Wiygul?
7	ATTY WIYGUL: Your Honor, I
8	can't. Unfortunately, I'm not in a
9	position to give you, you know, the
10	square footage or quantify it in that
11	respect. We've spoken to a number of
12	different potential vendors, and at the
13	end of the day, Pro V&V was the one
14	that was, in our view, willing and able
15	to do the job.
16	So what I've done is, I've
17	obviously shared the specifics on the
18	nature of the equipment and the items and
19	the equipment with the vendors, and they
20	confirmed to me whether they have
21	sufficiency or not, but I can't give you
22	a particular area number. Sorry.
23	THE COURT: Okay. And,
24	basically, we've got temperature and
25	humidity concerns. Is there something

1 different about -- you know, every 2 year, when the machines are not being used, they're being stored by all of 3 the counties, you know, and taken out 4 5 and prepared for use for the primary, then put back in storage, and then 6 7 taken out and prepared for use in the general election, and then put back 8 into storage. 9 10 And so, can somebody explain -and I understand this isn't on the 11 record, but I'm just trying to 12 understand. 13 14 You know, I'm looking at the 15 filings that have come in and am thinking 16 about our task was simply to select a third-party vendor that could store these 17 18 machines, and it did not appear initially to me that it was going to be anything 19 20 more complicated than what occurs every 21 year with all of the vending machines 22 that are stored and then prepared for 23 use. 24 And so, what I'm trying to understand is why it appears that there 25

1 is such a specific -- why there might be 2 a need for the type of storage that we have here. 3 So, Mr. Wiygul, you're the one 4 5 who seems to be saying that there needs to be this special kind of expertise. 6 7 Could you explain that a little bit more? ATTY WIYGUL: Yeah. Your 8 Honor, I think I would answer, if I 9 10 may, and I apologize for not seeming to 11 answer your earlier question. But I think part of the answer 12 is -- and, again, I'm paraphrasing what 13 14 I've spoken to my expert about. There 15 are indicators for escrowing technology 16 such as election machines but not that they're unique to election machine. 17 And 18 those standards are followed by the companies that do business in that area, 19 20 in that industry. And they do involve, you know, particular specifications in 21 22 terms of environmental controls. 23 And I'm not -- again, not being 24 an expert myself, I can't tell you, 25 unfortunately, what the, you know,

1 specific ranges that need to be 2 maintained for the temperature and the humidity are, but I know that there are 3 4 industry standards for that, and I think 5 that it's important in this case. In addition -- well, let me make 6 7 I think another part a separate point. of the issue here is, we are talking 8 about potentially long-term preservation 9 of data on pieces of equipment. 10 We're not in a situation where, you know, the 11 machines, as I understand it, when 12 13 they're used in elections, before each and every election, there is an 14 15 inspection of the machines that is done. 16 You know, there is a verification made that everything is installed with the 17 18 version of software, et cetera, that it should be installed on. 19 20 So the machines are not being 21 used to preserve data over extremely long 22 periods of time, which is what their value as evidence is. So I think that 23

as well.

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might also be a consideration, I'm sure,

1 But I think our primary point is 2 that these are digital assets as opposed to documents or, you know, other physical 3 4 objects. And so, they're more sensitive, 5 and they do require more refined conditions in order to ensure that they 6 7 are properly preserved over what could potentially be a long period of time. 8 THE COURT: So, basically, any 9 escrow agent that is familiar with 10 preserving digital data, so any kind of 11 computers or any kind of technology 12 that contains digital information. 13 Any 14 of those types of entities would be an 15 appropriate escrow agent for this 16 equipment. It would not need to be a company that specializes in voting 17 18 equipment. ATTY WIYGUL: Your Honor, I 19 20 don't know that it would absolutely 21 have to be a company that specializes 22 in voting equipment. 23 My understanding is -- and, 24 aqain, I'm a little nervous about making factual proffers just because I'm not the 25

1 expert here and I'm relying on my expert 2 THE COURT: Right. 3 4 ATTY WIYGUL: -- but I 5 understand that there are certainly a categorical distinctions between 6 7 storing sensitive pieces of technology, the data, versus I'll call them, you 8 know, dumb objects, you know, that 9 don't have data on them. 10 And even within the category of 11 technology, I understand that there are 12 13 different industry standards in terms of environmental conditions for different 14 15 types of technology. And, again, I 16 expected that this is something that our expert is going to be able to illuminate 17 18 more fully. So I think the short answer to 19 20 your question is: No, we don't think it 21 has to be, you know -- that only a voting 22 system test lab would have -- would be 23 able to provide the appropriate environmental conditions, but we do think 24 that some knowledge and some particular 25

1 types of facilities are required here. 2 THE COURT: Okay. (Indiscernible cross talk.) 3 4 ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, if I 5 may --THE COURT: Yes, of course. 6 7 ATTY CARROLL: I'm sorry. I apologize if I interrupted, Your Honor. 8 I would ask for clarification of 9 that position, of Mr. Wiygul's position, 10 that data can disappear from these 11 machines if they're not turned on and 12 That seems to be what he's charted. 13 14 saying. 15 THE COURT: No. Well, I think 16 what he's saying is, there's -- that -well, that data can be very -- I'm not 17 18 sure exactly of what he was saying, but he was trying to answer my question. 19 20 I think that in trying to figure 21 out the appropriate -- because all we're 22 looking at here, the only purpose, my only purpose in talking with you and what 23 we're trying to do here is to find a 24 place for these machines to be stored 25

1 while your other litigation continues. 2 And, you know, obviously, to the extent we can find a secure facility 3 where the machines can be safely 4 5 maintained in their current status without any additional or unnecessary 6 7 complication is what I think we're looking for. 8 ATTY CARROLL: Yes, Your Honor, 9 I understand what you're saying, but 10 I'm just trying to understand the --11 make a clarification so that I can 12 evaluate my witness list to determine 13 the standards of the industry that he 14 15 is proposing in this proposed hearing. 16 I've never seen this equipment in any way, but I think that, if I 17 18 understand, a room that's ten-by-ten would be sufficient in terms of the size 19 20 to store the equipment. THE COURT: 21 Okav. It would be 22 climate-controlled with controls on the humidity and temperature where he would 23 keep, you know, sensitive equipment. 24 Have both sides looked into such 25

vendors?

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ATTY WIYGUL: We have, Your Honor. This is Robert Wiygul for the Secretary.

5 We've investigated a number of different vendors that deal with the 6 7 technology and preservation of technological pieces of evidence. 8 And, you know, we thought Pro V&V was head-9 and-shoulders the best choice, and as has 10 been alluded to, at one point, in an 11 effort to try to negotiate the case, we 12 13 explored the possibility of an alternative vendor who we did not think 14 was as qualified as Pro V&V, but that we 15 16 thought might meet the baseline requirements here. 17 18 And at the end of the day, they were not willing to, you know, put 19 20 themselves into candidacy. And so, that's why we have applied for the 21 22 appointment of Pro V&V. 23

THE COURT: So they took
themselves out of consideration?
ATTY WIYGUL: That's right,

Your Honor.

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2	ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, I
3	think that, again, the Fulton County's
4	response is dependent on whether
5	Mr. Wiygul's position is that data can
6	disappear over a period of time. He is
7	not clarifying that position, and
8	that's the key to this question here.
9	ATTY WIYGUL: Your Honor, may
10	I would you like me to address that
11	point?
12	THE COURT: Sure.
13	ATTY WIYGUL: I think the point
14	that I'm making here is I again, I'm
15	imparting information from my expert,
16	who has told me that it may be
17	important to him to do everything that
18	is necessary to preserve the equipment
19	and the data, that the machine be
20	charged periodically.
21	But I think I mean, the other
22	consideration here and I think this
23	goes back to the evidence that came in in
24	the November hearing is, it's not always
25	clear whether data has been altered.

1 And so, part of the point of 2 these vigorous standards regarding both environmental control and chain of 3 4 custody, and so that the parties, to 5 ensure that the procedures were such that they have minimized to the greatest 6 7 degree feasibly possible, if not wholly eliminated, the risk that, you know, data 8 may have been altered in a way that is 9 undetectable. 10 And I think that would be 11 important to the special managers in the 12 Supreme Court findings of our 13 14 exspoiliation in the underlying 15 proceedings, which was that there would 16 necessarily be concrete proof that changes or alterations or deletions had 17 18 occurred, but that there could be no certainty, given what had transpired, 19 20 that they did not occur. And I think that's -- you know, 21 22 it's that general phenomenon that is in part in forming our advocacy for fairly 23 rigorous standards of maintenance and 24 25 chain of custody here.

1 ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, I 2 would object to that. That's not what we're here for today, Your Honor. 3 It's 4 clearly stated what we're here for, and 5 he's trying to expand the scope into something that has already been 6 7 resolved. THE COURT: In what way? 8 Can you explain your objection? 9 10 ATTY CARROLL: I'm sorry. 11 Could you say that again? It's hard to hear you. 12 13 THE COURT: Okay. This is 14 informal. There are no real 15 objections, and I will overrule your 16 objection. I wanted to have a 17 So, okay. 18 better understanding, and I think I do I had hoped that we would be able 19 now. 20 to avoid some of the testimony that if it was possible to find a vendor that would 21 22 be competent and capable of storing technologically-sensitive equipment but 23 24 not necessarily having an expertise in 25 voting machines.

1 I had thought that the parties' 2 experts would be able to examine the machines, you know, before they're placed 3 into custody, you know, when necessary 4 5 for purposes of the litigation. But we can think about that. 6 7 ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, I'm sorry to interrupt you. I could not 8 Can I ask for a hear you. 9 clarification of what you said about an 10 11 examination? I'm not hearing you. THE COURT: What I said was 12 what my initial understanding had been 13 14 of how the escrow would occur, you 15 know, that there would be an inspection 16 at the beginning, before the items were placed into escrow. And then to the 17 18 extent that they were needed during the course of any litigation obviously that 19 20 would occur. But either there would be 21 22 inventory, and when you take possession, 23 if there were any inspections necessary in order to document the condition of the 24 equipment as it was placed into escrow so 25

that it would be there.

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2 But I think that what we're going to have to do is continue with the 3 4 hearing as it's currently scheduled on 5 Monday, but I would like you both to think of whether you can come up with a 6 7 potential escrow agent that would have expertise in maintaining technologically-8 sensitive equipment and whether that 9 would be sufficient for our purposes 10 11 here. And I'm not sure if there's 12 anything further that needs to be 13 14 discussed here. Is there anything 15 further, Attorney Wiygul? 16 ATTY WIYGUL: I'd just like to make two quick points, if I may, Your 17 18 Honor. One is, I appreciate the goal that Your Honor has laid out. T think 19 20 that ensuring evidence, as I understand Your Honor's suggestion, really was a 21 22 candidate that fell into that niche 23 from our perspective. And as I said, 24 they, unfortunately, were not willing So we did make that to go forward. 25

1 effort and, unfortunately, it was not 2 successful at the end of the day. The second point I would make is, 3 as I was reading Your Honor's order from 4 5 yesterday with respect to the question of experience specific to election security, 6 7 the Secretary does agree that the expert is certainly not going to be involved in 8 any kind of forensic examination of the 9 10 machines or any audit or anything like 11 that. So to the extent that there are 12 evidentiary questions or questions of 13 14 presenting potential evidence regarding 15 auditing or forensic analysis, we do believe that that evidence is not 16 17 relevant to the purpose of this hearing. 18 ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, if I may just reply. 19 20 THE COURT: Yes. 21 ATTY CARROLL: You had put 22 forward today that it was your 23 understanding that there would be an 24 inspection that is, in fact, new evidence or new information that was 25

not --

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2 THE COURT: No, I'm sorry. Ι may have -- I apologize if I misspoke. 3 Maybe "inspection" was the wrong word 4 5 to use. Probably "inventory" was a better word for me to use. 6 7 But that there would be some -you know, that the machines and all of 8 the equipment that would be placed into 9 escrow would be inventoried before it's 10 placed into the escrow, into storage, 11 where it will be safely and securely 12 13 maintained during the pendency of the 14 litigation. 15 And, frankly, I didn't appreciate 16 how complicated this idea of securing these machines would be, but I look 17 18 forward to being educated about it beginning Monday. 19 20 ATTY CARROLL: Right. Your 21 Honor, I would just then -- now that 22 you clarified that you meant inspection 23 over --24 THE COURT: Inventory. 25 ATTY CARROLL: I mean inventory

1 over inspection, I would have the same 2 question: Who would do the inventory and what would it consist of? 'Cause 3 that has never been put forward before. 4 5 That's what I'm asking now. Well, I would think THE COURT: 6 7 that whenever items are placed into an escrow, that there would be an 8 inventory of those items so that 9 everybody is on the same page as when 10 the escrow is finished, that the 11 inventory would need to be matched with 12 the items that are there to assure that 13 there has been -- you know, that 14 15 everything continues to be secure. 16 ATTY CARROLL: So my question would be: Is the Court ordering --17 18 THE COURT: I'm not ordering anything. 19 20 ATTY CARROLL: -- a forensic This is --21 inventory? 22 THE COURT: No, this court is 23 not ordering anything. This court is 24 not ordering anything. ATTY CARROLL: Okay. 25 I'm

1 sorry, Your Honor. Thank you. 2 THE COURT: I think that we --Dominion, I apologize. I have not 3 4 asked you for your... position on 5 anything that we've discussed. ATTY GALLAGHER: This is Shawn 6 7 Gallagher, Your Honor. I mean, we agree with the 8 position of the Secretary. I mean, we 9 10 were just asked if the equipment at issue has been designated as critical 11 infrastructure by the Department of 12 Homeland Security, you know. 13 14 And for those reasons, we agree 15 that Pro V&V, which is a nonpartisan, 16 federally-accredited voting system test lab, would be the appropriate escrow 17 18 agent. THE COURT: Okay. And with 19 20 regard to the question of whether a 21 vendor with experience in maintaining 22 sensitive technological information but not necessarily voting equipment would 23 24 be an adequate third-party escrow Does Dominion have a position 25 agent.

1 about that? 2 ATTY GALLAGHER: I would just echo the comments of Mr. Wiyqul. 3 Same 4 position. 5 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. ATTY GALLAGHER: 6 Thank you. 7 THE COURT: Okay. I appreciate your time today, and I will look 8 forward to seeing all of you on Monday. 9 10 ATTY WIYGUL: Your Honor, will 11 you indulge me? Can I just ask a couple of administrative questions that 12 will help us in preparing for the 13 14 hearing? It doesn't involve the 15 outstanding evidentiary issues. 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 ATTY WIYGUL: Thank you, Your 18 Honor. One of our proposed witnesses is 19 20 going to be in Florida, a representative of Pro V&V, and he has filed a motion 21 22 seeking permission for him to testify remotely. I don't believe that either 23 24 party filed an opposition to that. And just for administrative 25

1 purposes, I wonder if Your Honor might 2 give us some guidance about when we might expect a ruling on that. 3 Yes. We will issue 4 THE COURT: 5 an order with regard to this afternoon. ATTY WIYGUL: 6 Thank you. 7 And I think my only other questions are that the parties seem to 8 have a pretty wide difference of opinion 9 about the length of the hearing, and I 10 wonder if Your Honor had any guidance as 11 to that for purposes of making hotel 12 reservations and that sort of thing. 13 THE COURT: I am not inclined 14 15 to have this hearing last any longer 16 than is necessary. We have not made 17 arrangements for that. So I suppose 18 that would be -- let's see. Secretary, you've said six hours, 19 20 was it? I think it was ATTY WIYGUL: 21 22 four hours, Your Honor, to present the direct testimony of our witnesses. 23 24 THE COURT: Okay. And let's see, Mr. Carroll, your estimate was 25

1 significantly different. 2 ATTY CARROLL: Yes. I think it would take several days to address the 3 4 competency, conflict, and ability to 5 secure the evidence from all of these witnesses. 6 7 THE COURT: Well, yeah. And we do have other hearings scheduled. 8 In fact, we have another hearing in 9 another case scheduled for the next 10 11 day. So I was anticipating it taking 12 13 only one day. If we need to have it go into a second day, it would have to be 14 later in the week, but I don't anticipate 15 16 it taking more than a day-and-a-half or two days. 17 18 We'll have to try to, you know, limit the testimony or be very efficient 19 20 with the questioning, I think. ATTY CARROLL: Your Honor, I 21 22 just have one question if Mr. Wiygul is finished with his remarks. 23 THE COURT: 24 Yes. ATTY CARROLL: 25 That would be if

1 the Court intended rule on our request 2 to stay based on the petition having been filed. 3 4 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Could 5 you say that again, please? ATTY CARROLL: With regard to 6 7 the application of these files for a stay based on the petition being filed 8 to the United States Supreme Court, are 9 10 you planning on making a ruling on that? 11 THE COURT: I can make a ruling 12 on that before we begin. 13 14 ATTY CARROLL: Thank you, Your 15 Honor. 16 THE COURT: I appreciate the difficulty of trying to approve the 17 18 proper place for this equipment to be stored, and I understand the importance 19 20 of it. I do want to make sure that 21 both sides have the opportunity they 22 need to present the testimony that is relevant to the inquiry at hand. 23 24 And so, we will endeavor to do that if we have to come early or stay 25

1 late or two breaks. Whatever we need to 2 do, we will do. But I would also respect the time 3 4 and effort that everybody is putting in 5 and the fact that, under the current orders of the Supreme Court, the 6 7 taxpayers of Fulton County are paying a price for this, and I want to be mindful 8 that we're careful in how we spend their 9 tax dollars as well. 10 And so, I think I'm going to ask 11 everyone to be as efficient as they can 12 13 with the questioning of the witnesses and be as prepared as they can and see how 14 15 expeditiously we can resolve this 16 inquiry, which is really just -- the focus is just to an find an appropriate 17 18 place where this equipment can be maintained securely during the pendency 19 20 of the litigation that you have and that you're currently involved in. 21 22 (Indiscernible cross talk.) 23 ATTY WIYGUL: I'm sorry, Your 24 Honor. 25 THE COURT: Go ahead.

1 ATTY WIYGUL: I was just going 2 to inquire in terms of, again, just from an administrative standpoint to 3 make sure, in the interest of 4 5 efficiency, that we have our witnesses ready to go at the right time. 6 7 Does Your Honor have a view as to which party should go first in presenting 8 the evidence? I think, you know, the 9 10 Secretary could be accurately described as the (indiscernible), so we were 11 prepared to put on our evidence first, 12 but I did want to inquire the Court about 13 14 its expectation. 15 THE COURT: Thank you. 16 We'll issue an order later today that will set forth our understanding of 17 18 how the hearing will proceed, and that will give you what you need. 19 20 ATTY WIYGUL: Thank you, Your 21 Honor. 22 THE COURT: Thank you for 23 asking the question. 24 Are there any other questions? 25 ATTY CARROLL: Not from the

Fulton County side, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate your input today and your all being present, and look forward to seeing you on Monday. Thank you. (Proceedings end at 1:55 p.m.) * * *

CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings, evidence, and objections are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the proceedings in the foregoing matter taken on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

Josephine Cardillo

Professional Court Reporter and Notary Public

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