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Via E-Filing

The Honorable Scott S. Harris
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of the United States
One First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

RE: *Louisiana v. Callais*, No.24-109 (consolidated with *Robinson v. Callais*, No. 24-110).

Dear Mr. Harris:

The Louisiana Department of State (“the Department of State”) respectfully writes to the Court as a duly-elected constitutional officer of the State of Louisiana, La. Const. Art. IV, §7. We write to notify the Court that the Louisiana Department of Justice (“the Department of Justice”) does not represent the interests of the Department of State in this matter. The Department of State is entitled to adequate counsel and representation as the sole defendant in the case. This is consistent with the three and a half years the Department of State has retained counsel independent of any party to best represent the position, as well as the unique interests, of administering elections.

Notably, the Department of Justice intervened in this matter on behalf of the State of Louisiana, not the Department of State. Further, given the complete position change by the Department of Justice before this Court, it cannot represent the interests of the Department when the positions had previously been adversely aligned. The Department of Justice cites La. Const. art. IV, § 8—“(3) for cause, when authorized by the court which would have original jurisdiction and subject to judicial review, (a) to institute, prosecute, or intervene in any criminal action or proceeding, or (b) to supersede any attorney representing the state in any civil or criminal action.” However, no cause has been asserted and no court has authorized such actions by the Department of Justice.

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Respectfully, the Department of State is not a ministerial office, but a duly elected constitutional position in the State of Louisiana, third in the order of succession, La. Const. Art. IV, §14. As such the Department maintains that its interests may only fully be represented and protected by its own counsel, a position maintained throughout the entirety of the redistricting litigation of this decade.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ PHILLIP JOHN STRACH

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cc: All Counsel of Record