

MONTANA THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

<p>MONTANA YOUTH ACTION; FORWARD MONTANA FOUNDATION; and MONTANA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Plaintiffs,</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">vs.</p> <p>CHRISTI JACOBSEN, in her official capacity as Montana Secretary of State,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Defendant.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cause No: DV 2021-451 DV 2021-1097</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hon. Michael G. Moses Hon. Gregory R. Todd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CONSOLIDATION</p>
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Before the Court is the motion for consolidation submitted by Plaintiffs in Cause No. DV 2021-1097 (“MYA”). MYA requests to consolidate their matter into DV 2021-451, which was previously consolidated with DV 2021-560. Plaintiffs, the Montana Democratic Party and Mitch Bohn (“MDP”), and the previously consolidated Plaintiffs, Western Native Voice et al (“WNV”) in Cause No. DV 2021-451, do not object to consolidation. Defendant Secretary Christi Jacobsen (“the Secretary”) does object to

consolidation. The motion for consolidation has been fully briefed and oral argument was not requested. Judge Gregory R. Todd issued an Order Granting MYA's Motion for Consolidation. This Court, pursuant to Thirteenth Jud. Dist. Local R. 1(h) consulted with Judge Todd about this consolidation and concurs in his Order Granting Consolidation.

The Court has considered all the papers and briefs on file. The Court, being fully informed, makes the following decision:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1) MYA's Motion for Consolidation is **GRANTED**;
- 2) the Clerk of this Court is directed to consolidate Cause No. DV 21-1097 with Cause No. DV 21-451;
- 3) all future documents shall be filed under Cause No. DV 21-451; and
- 4) all of the parties (MDP, WNV, MYA, and the Secretary) will contact the Court, through its judicial assistant, to set a scheduling conference, during which the timing of issues related to the consolidation will be discussed.

DATED this 13th day of December, 2021.

/s/ Michael G. Moses
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

cc: Hon. Gregory R. Todd
David M.S. Dewhirst, Austin M. James, and Dale Schowengerdt; *Attorneys for the Secretary*
Peter M. Meloy, Matthew Gordon, and John Heenan; *Attorneys for MDP*
Alex Rate, Akilah Lane, Alora Thomas-Lundborg, Ihaab Syed, Theresa J. Lee, Dale E. Ho,
Jacqueline De León, Matthew Campbell, and Samantha Kelty; *Attorneys for WNV Plaintiffs*
Rylee Sommers-Flanagan, *Attorney for MYA*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the foregoing was duly served by email upon the parties or their attorneys of record at their last known addresses this 13th day of December, 2021.

BY: /s/ Monique Rodriguez on behalf of Deanne Breshears
Judicial Assistant to Hon. Michael G. Moses