

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA**

PEOPLE FIRST OF ALABAMA, et
al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOHN MERRILL, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:20-cv-00619-AKK

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Plaintiffs People First of Alabama, Eric Peebles, Howard Porter, Jr., Annie Carolyn Thompson, Greater Birmingham Ministries, the Alabama State Conference of the NAACP, Black Voters Matter Capacity Building Institute, Teresa Bettis, Sheryl Threadgill- Matthews, and Gregory Bentley (collectively, “Plaintiffs”) respectfully move for the Court to enter in the provided Protective Order.

In support of this motion, Plaintiffs offer the following:

1. The Defendants Secretary of State John Merrill and the State of Alabama have no objection to the Court entering this proposed Protective Order.

2. The Defendant the Absentee Election Manager for Mobile County also has no objection to the Court entering this proposed Protective Order.

3. The Plaintiffs circulated a copy of the proposed Protective Order to all counsel of record on Friday, July 17, 2020 asking for concerns, objections and edits, but no other Defendant responded.

4. In the course of discovery or otherwise as necessary to litigate this case, the parties to the case and third parties may be required to produce and/or use private, personal, and/or confidential information, including but not limited to, information concerning certain Alabama residents and voters, and certain sensitive operational business and financial records of Plaintiffs. Such information may also include private or confidential information held by the federal government and its departments and agencies about Alabama residents and voters (including but not limited to information about passports and military photo identification cards).

5. Such information may be protected as confidential or private under various privacy laws of the State of Alabama and/or the federal government, including but not limited to the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.

6. Given these concerns, the provisions in the proposed Protective Order are necessary to protect the privacy interests of the parties by governing the production and use in the above-captioned action of records, documents and/or information produced by the parties and by third parties in this action that may be

protected by the Privacy Act or other state and/or federal privacy laws or privileges, and otherwise might intrude upon the privacy interests of individuals to whom such records, documents and/or information pertain.

7. A proposed Protective Order is attached.

Accordingly, Plaintiffs move the Court and requests the Court to enter the proposed Protective Order.

DATED July 22, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Deuel Ross

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sarah Brannon, certify that on July 22, 2020, I served Plaintiffs' Motion for Protective Order to Defendants by e-mail to counsel for Defendants.

/s/ Sarah Brannon

Sarah Brannon