UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

COALITION FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, et al.,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:21-CV-02070-JPB

<u>ORDER</u>

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiffs' Motion to Stay and for

Extension of Deadlines [Doc. 85]. This Court finds as follows:

Plaintiffs filed this action against Defendants on May 17, 2021. [Doc. 1]. Discovery opened on February 1, 2022. [Doc. 67]. Because of a three-month extension, discovery is currently scheduled to close on October 3, 2022. [Doc. 84].

On September 13, 2022, Plaintiffs filed the instant Motion to Stay and for Extension of Deadlines. In the motion, Plaintiffs ask the Court to stay the litigation until March 1, 2023, and extend the discovery deadline to May 15, 2023. Plaintiffs explain that a stay is needed because Plaintiffs' counsel does not currently have "the time and resources necessary to prosecute this case." [Doc. 85, p. 2]. Defendants oppose any stay in this matter. Defendants contend that in the nearly eight months of discovery, Plaintiffs have only served one set of interrogatories, requests for production and requests for admission. Plaintiffs have not, according to Defendants, requested depositions or identified experts. In short, Defendants assert that Plaintiffs have not taken any steps to advance this case, and thus a stay or extension of the discovery period is not warranted.

Given the age of the case and the length of the discovery period already afforded to the parties, the Court is not willing to provide Plaintiffs with the full relief requested. Accordingly, the motion is **GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART**. While the Court will not stay the case, the Court will extend discovery for a limited time.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that discovery is extended through and including November 17, 2022. This extension allows the parties an additional forty-five days to complete discovery. Any additional extension beyond this date is unlikely absent exceedingly compelling circumstances and a showing that Plaintiffs have made efforts to move the case forward. Dispositive motions shall be filed no later than December 19, 2022.

SO ORDERED this 20th day of September, 2022.

J. P. BOULEE United States District Judge