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STATE OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Apache Junction, Arizona
June 20, 2001
6:00 p.m.

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT
REDISTRICTING
COMMISSION

LISA A. NANCE, RPR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50349

1 THE STATE OF ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING
2 COMMISSION convened in Public Session on June 20, 2001,
3 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in Pinal County at the Apache
4 Junction Senior Center, 1177 North Idaho, Apache
5 Junction, Arizona, in the presence of:

6

7 APPEARANCES:

8 VICE CHAIRMAN ANDI MINKOFF

9 COMMISSIONER JAMES R. HUNTWORK

10 LISA HAUSER, Commission Counsel

11 FLORENCE ADAMS, NDC Consultant

12 ENRIQUE MEDINA OCHOA, Executive Director

13 ADOLFO ECHEVESTE, Outreach Staff

14 AMY REZZONICO, Press Information Officer

15 AUGUSTA KNIGHT, Staff

16 LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Court Reporter

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PRESENTATION BY:

VICE CHAIRMAN ANDI MINKOFF

SPEAKERS FROM CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

SENATOR PETE RIOS

MAYOR DOUG COLEMAN

ROSEMARY SHEARER

BARBARA GARDNER

SANDIE SMITH

DORA VASQUEZ

GEORGE DIEHL

NAPOLEON PISANO

CARLOS VALLEJO

1 Apache Junction, Arizona
2 June 20, 2001
3 6:00 o'clock p.m.

3

4

P R O C E E D I N G S

5

6 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: We're going to get
7 started.

8

9 My name is Andi Minkoff. I'm Vice Chair
10 of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

11

12 One of the other Commissioners, James
13 Huntwork, was supposed to be here. I got a call from
14 him this afternoon. He was tied up in a meeting. If he
15 ran into the traffic I ran into coming out on the
16 Superstition Freeway, he'll probably get here in time to
17 say good night. When he does come in, I'll introduce
18 him to you.

19

20 This is supposed to be his part of the
21 meeting. Bear with me.

22

23 I wanted to thank you for coming.
24 This is one of 23 outreach meetings we're
25 having throughout the state. This is round one of the
26 outreach meetings. You'll hear round one, round two,
27 when we do our outreach meetings.

28

29 The main purpose of this meeting is for us
30 to hear from you. We have come to you because it is our

31

1 charge to draw new Congressional and Legislative
2 Districts. We want to hear from the people of Arizona
3 as to what districts will work for them, what districts
4 make them feel they are well represented in Congress and
5 the State Legislature, and what their communities of
6 interest are.

7 You are going to hear a lot about
8 communities of interest.

9 Community of interest was a term coined by
10 Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor from Arizona.
11 In an election law case she referred to communities of
12 interest being considered in election issues. The only
13 problem was she didn't tell us what she meant by
14 community of interest. We and 49 other states are
15 trying to develop our own definitions of communities of
16 interest.

17 What we decided to do in Arizona is let
18 the people of Arizona define what these communities of
19 interest are.

20 So by telling us who you have common
21 interests with, who you link up with, who you want to be
22 part of a district with, you will define your own
23 community of interest. That's one of the main reasons
24 why we're having these meetings, to hear from you, hear
25 what you see as your community of interest that should

1 be kept together in a Congressional or Legislative
2 District.

3 Before we begin, I want to make a few
4 introductions. I'd like to introduce Jim Huntwork, but
5 he's not here.

6 MR. OCHOA: He is here.

7 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: He is here. Drum
8 roll, please.

9 While waiting, incidentally, let me remind
10 you, we do have yellow speaker slips. If somebody, even
11 though you think you might want to speak, when we call
12 on you, you can say "pass" if you change your mind,
13 would like to change your mind.

14 In the meantime, other introductions. The
15 gentleman standing at the door is our Executive
16 Director, Enrique Medina Ochoa.

17 The gentleman next to him is Adolfo
18 Echeveste, our outreach coordinator.

19 Augusta Knight, equally terrific.

20 We feel we have the best consultants
21 in the country assisting the Commission.

22 Tonight we have the head of NDC, Dr. Florence Adams.

23 Our court reporter, who writes everything
24 down so we know who said what, and we're sure we know
25 what is what, is Lisa Nance.

1 And last but certainly not least --

2 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Last.

3 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: No, you are not. I
4 mentioned the traffic on the Superstition.

5 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Your tardiness is
7 understandable.

8 James Huntwork, the senior member of the
9 Commission. He was the first one appointed. We'll talk
10 about that later.

11 Do you want to do the Power Point or want
12 me?

13 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: You.

14 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: We have a Power
15 Point presentation for you. I'll have to move around so
16 I don't block the screen and so I can reach the laptop.

17 Cut me some slack. They changed it since
18 the last time I saw it. There are some I'll see for the
19 first time since the last time I saw it.

20 I forgot one very, very important thing.

21 Is there anyone here who needs Spanish
22 translation? We do have it available.

23 Where is our translator?

24 Adolfo, would you repeat what I said in
25 Spanish?

1 (Whereupon, the public was asked in
2 Spanish if anyone desired a Spanish interpreter. No one
3 requested Spanish interpretation.)

4 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Now we will start
5 with the Power Point presentation which will give you a
6 little bit of information about the task ahead of us.
7 Then we're going to turn the meeting over to you.

8 We'll talk a little but listen a lot
9 tonight.

10 The subject of the presentation tonight is
11 redistricting. We have two tasks, drawing district
12 lines for 30 state Legislative Districts, that number
13 has not changed, and also eight Congressional Districts,
14 two more than we have had for the last 10 years. We're
15 doing this under the provisions of Proposition 106.

16 A very important difference between our
17 redistricting and those of the past is that citizens,
18 all of you sitting here, are going to play a crucial
19 role in the process.

20 These hearings are partly to educate you
21 but mostly to educate us.

22 MR. ECHEVESTE: Your hair is right on the
23 edge of the screen.

24 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: You are right. We
25 haven't gotten to the meat of it yet. Hopefully nothing

1 was lost and my head looks okay on the screen.

2 We will be using these hearings to bring
3 the redistricting process to all areas of the state and
4 and to involve you.

5 We want to make this a fair process. All
6 of us on the Commission are committed to representing
7 the five, almost 5.1 million people in Arizona, fairly,
8 to make the process fair, and to come up with districts
9 that honestly represent your needs.

10 Often, in the past, redistricting has been
11 a deeply divisive process, a very political process,
12 raising charges of dirty politics, partisan power plays,
13 incumbent protection, depending on whether you were the
14 majority or minority party at the time, and racial
15 discrimination. The word for such abusive redistricting
16 we all learned newly this year is gerrymandering. We've
17 all been mispronouncing it.

18 This is a cartoon from the Boston Globe in
19 1811, the first gerrymander. It was named after a man
20 named Elbridge Gerry. He was the Governor of
21 Massachusetts. He wanted to protect the people allied
22 with him. So they drew up a district that looked pretty
23 much like this. A political cartoonist for the Boston
24 Globe added a head, fangs, wings, and feet, and said it
25 looks like a salamander. Naming it for the Governor, it

1 was named the Gerrymander, and it's held this name ever
2 since.

3 This is how some gerrymandering works.
4 There are lot of ways to gerrymander. These are two
5 examples.

6 In the example on the left, you have an
7 example of dilution, dispersal of minority party voters,
8 a technique called dilution.

9 What is done here now, we'll call it the
10 green party and pink party, the green party wants to
11 make sure they control whatever this body is, so they've
12 taken two concentrations of pink party adherents and
13 split them among four districts so they really don't
14 have a chance of electing anybody in any of the four
15 districts and the green party would elect all four
16 representatives because they have diluted the votes of
17 the minority party by splitting them among four
18 districts and making sure they don't have a lot of
19 people in any one district.

20 On the right is a different way of
21 handling minority voters and making sure they don't
22 threaten the majority party. All pink party voters are
23 concentrated in district four leaving districts one,
24 two, and three pink party free, completely controlled by
25 the green party. They are ceding district four to the

1 pink party. They'll control the other three districts;
2 therefore, they'll control the legislative body. This
3 is called packing. And it's another way of
4 gerrymandering, to dilute minority party interests.

5 Another type of gerrymandering is racial
6 gerrymandering, and it may be done by either Democrats
7 or Republicans.

8 As an example, there is a group of
9 Hispanics outlined in orange. Hispanics traditionally
10 tend to vote Democratic; not all of them, but the
11 overwhelming majority of them do. In this particular
12 instance, the Republicans are trying to create a
13 majority for them in this legislative body. And what
14 they have done is packed all of the Hispanics and some
15 other Democrats and a Democratic incumbent in district
16 one. And that leaves district two and district three
17 without significant proportions of Hispanic voters
18 allowing Republicans control of those two districts
19 giving Democrats district one and allowing Republicans
20 districts two and three.

21 On the right side, you see they want a
22 white incumbent, don't want the white incumbent
23 defeated. They divide the Hispanic voters among all
24 three districts, which means they really don't have a
25 strong voice in any of the three districts, and they

1 will not have an opportunity to elect somebody of their
2 choosing. And it protects the white incumbent's seat in
3 district one.

4 Both parties are guilty of this in the
5 past. And what the people of Arizona wanted to do in
6 passing Proposition 106 was to hopefully prevent this
7 from happening in the future. They wanted to clean up
8 the process.

9 When they voted for Proposition 106, they
10 created a new entity, the Independent Redistricting
11 Commission.

12 There are five members of the Commission.
13 We'll be responsible for a brand-new kind of
14 redistricting process.

15 These are the members of the Commission.
16 Now, selection of the Commission was what we call an
17 affirmative process. That means we had to apply.

18 There were 311 people who applied to be
19 members of this Commission. Those applications were
20 sent to the State Commission on Appellate Court
21 Appointments where they were narrowed down. And 10
22 Democrats, 10 Republicans, and five Registered
23 Independents were selected as finalists, if you will.

24 Then, according to Proposition 106, the
25 first selection went to the Speaker of the House of

1 Representatives, Speaker Jim Weiers. Speaker Weiers is
2 Republican. He looked among the 10 Republican names and
3 selected Commissioner Huntwork. He's our senior member,
4 got the job first.

5 Commissioner Huntwork is an attorney in
6 Phoenix and brings a lot of expertise and knowledge and
7 even temperament to the Commission. And we're very,
8 very glad to have him there.

9 The next Commissioner was chosen by the
10 Democratic Leader, Minority Leader of House, Ken
11 Chevront; and he selected me.

12 At that point, Commissioner Huntwork and
13 myself, both living in Phoenix, both living in Maricopa
14 County, that meant nobody else from Maricopa County
15 could be selected. Proposition 106 states no more than
16 two people could be selected from the same county.

17 The next selection was from the Senate,
18 the President of the Senate, Randall Gnant. He selected
19 Daniel Elder, a landscape architect and consultant on
20 land use. He's terrific. He's worked with the State of
21 Arizona before, helps us wade through governmental
22 procedure, and also helped us design our offices.

23 The fourth appointment was made by the
24 Democratic Floor Leader, can't say majority or minority
25 since the Senate is divided evenly, 15, 15, Republicans,

1 Democrats, Jack Brown. His selection, the final
2 partisan, was Joshua Hall.

3 Mr. Hall has a title company, is the only
4 member of the Commission from a rural area. He really
5 brings a very, very valuable point of view because of
6 that.

7 Then the four of us got together and we
8 were charged with selecting the Chair of the Commission
9 from among the five Independents whose names had been
10 sent on to us.

11 By the time we got around to selecting,
12 one person had withdrawn from the selection. He took a
13 position as a paid lobbyist. Proposition 106 says you
14 cannot have been in office or a paid lobbyist within a
15 certain timeframe. We were left with four people to
16 choose from. From among those we selected Steve Lynn, a
17 Registered Independent, who also lives in Tucson. He is
18 a senior member of Tucson Electric Power and Unisource,
19 which is their parent corporation.

20 And the five of us have the charge of
21 drawing up new districts for the State of Arizona.

22 Proposition 106 says that "The Independent
23 Redistricting Commission shall establish Congressional
24 and Legislative Districts. The commencement of the
25 mapping process for both the Congressional and

1 Legislative Districts shall be the creation of districts
2 of equal population in a grid-like pattern across the
3 state."

4 That's really unique to Arizona. And you
5 are going to hear more about what that grid-like pattern
6 means.

7 After that initial paragraph stating we
8 have to create equal population grids, there are several
9 other criteria 106 requires us to follow in drawing up
10 districts.

11 First of all, we have to comply with the
12 United States Constitution and the United States Voting
13 Rights Act.

14 There is a clause in the Constitution that
15 interpreted one person one vote. It's a Supreme Court
16 decision from 35 years ago, Baker vs. Carl. That means
17 districts have to be essentially of equal population so
18 a voter in one district has the same weight to his vote
19 as a voter in another district.

20 Secondly, the United States Voting Rights
21 Act provides for minority representation, that the
22 ability for minority groups to elect representatives of
23 their choosing may not be diluted. Whatever their
24 ability is currently to elect members to the Legislature
25 and Congress of their choosing, the new district plan

1 has to at least preserve that level, if not enhance it.

2 And that's in the United States Voting Rights Act.

3 And also because of Section Five of the
4 United States Voting Rights Act, anything we do in the
5 State of Arizona has to be cleared by the Department of
6 Justice. It has to get their approval.

7 Primarily what we're looking for is no
8 dilution.

9 B. Essentially Prop 106 restates the
10 equal protection clause. Congressional districts shall
11 have equal population to the extent practicable; and
12 state legislative districts districts shall have equal
13 population to the extent practicable.

14 Districts shall be geographically compact
15 and contiguous to the extent practicable, nothing like
16 the salamander, a little more compact and contiguous.

17 District boundaries shall respect
18 communities of interest to the extent practicable.

19 We're here tonight for you to tell us
20 where you want lines to be.

21 To the extent practicable, district lines
22 shall use visible geographic features, city, town, and
23 county boundaries, and undivided Census tracts.

24 To the extent practicable, competitive
25 districts should be favored where to do so would create

1 no significant detriment to the other goals.

2 It seems to us, first work on A through E,
3 and if we don't have to sacrifice any of those, then we
4 should create competitive districts.

5 Then there are a couple things we're not
6 supposed to do:

7 First of all, party registration and
8 voting history data shall be excluded from the initial
9 phase of the mapping process but may be used to test
10 maps for compliance with the above goals and may be used
11 to adjust those maps, if necessary, to achieve
12 competitive districts.

13 Finally, one significant prohibition:
14 Places of residence of incumbents or candidates shall
15 not be identified or considered.

16 We had somebody in a prior meeting who
17 stood up and started to give us the address of an
18 incumbent. And our attorney stood up very quickly and
19 said, "Please don't do that. We're not supposed to know
20 that. We cannot take that into consideration."

21 With that caveat, we're not supposed to
22 know that, take that into consideration in your remarks
23 when you talk about communities of interest. If you
24 love your Representatives, we all love our
25 Representatives, don't tell us where he or she lives.

1 We're not supposed to take that into consideration.

2 In April 2001, the Commission received
3 facts on Arizona's population as reported by the Census.
4 Arizona grew from 3.6 million to 5.1 million, a 40
5 percent increase in over 10 years. That's pretty
6 outstanding.

7 Some areas of Arizona grew even faster
8 than that.

9 As you can see, Pinal County, where we're
10 here tonight, was one of the leaders of the pack almost
11 54 percent growth in 10 years.

12 The tasks of the Commission:

13 First of all, we need to develop districts
14 in a grid-like pattern.

15 We first looked at the dictionary
16 definitions of a "grid." Most refer to two things:
17 straight lines and regular spacing, right angles. In
18 developing the grid, we went to our consultants and they
19 said: Where shall we start? What shall we do?

20 To assure this was a completely neutral
21 process and took nothing into account except population,
22 what we were supposed to do in the initial grid, we
23 developed a starting point, the Gila Salt River Base
24 Line Meridian, at Baseline Road and 107th Avenue in
25 Western Maricopa County.

1 The reason we used that starting point,
2 that's the point from which all of the State of Arizona
3 is surveyed. All western states are surveyed into
4 townships, and we did that on the basis of township
5 meridians. Townships are six miles square and base line
6 meridians are six miles apart. The prime meridian and
7 base line are neutral. It divides the state into four
8 quadrants, as you'll see up there, not of equal size,
9 not of equal population.

10 In deciding where to start, we drew
11 numbers by lot. And the northwest quadrant of the state
12 was selected. That's where we began the grid process.
13 Then we flipped a coin for counterclockwise or
14 clockwise. Counterclockwise won. So we finished up in
15 the northeast quadrant of the state.

16 Most of Arizona is divided into a
17 grid-like pattern of townships. There is one exception
18 that is not part of the township survey part of the
19 state. We tried to use this as part of the township
20 part of the grid.

21 In an urban area, a township may be large
22 enough to be a district, may be too large. In less
23 densely populated areas, we may need to aggregate
24 townships. If that is necessary, we make a township
25 grid of four townships. If we had to go still larger,

1 we take four of those township grids and take them, make
2 them into an immediate township grid, 16 townships; if
3 necessary, we move to a supertownship grid which
4 contains 64 townships in a grid-like pattern. And the
5 Census geography checks for population, the Census
6 tracts.

7 You've seen the grid. It's not square.
8 And that's because Census tracts are not rectangular.
9 They do not cross county lines. We overlaid the Census
10 tracts on the grids.

11 If the majority of the population in a
12 Census tract was in a particular township, that entire
13 Census tract was assigned to that township. That's how
14 we came up with some of the irregular lines you see.

15 We adopted the grid and approved it at a
16 meeting on June 7th. And it is on our website and
17 published. And people have looked at it and said, "My
18 gosh, that doesn't work at all." We know. Because all
19 we used was population.

20 We didn't consider communities of
21 interest. It split Indian reservations in half. That's
22 a no-no. It split communities of interest down the
23 middle. We don't want to do that.

24 It is a starting point and that's all that
25 it is. And we're going to make lots of changes in the

1 grid.

2 People have come to us. Legislators have
3 said, "You chopped up my district into four districts."

4 That's not necessarily the way it's going
5 to stay. But the existing districts are our starting
6 point. And new districts are probably going to look
7 very different.

8 Now for the second stage of the process,
9 the public hearings.

10 Then, after the public hearings, after we
11 get your input, once we have your input, we'll prepare
12 draft maps, one for Congressional Districts, one for
13 Legislative Districts, and publish them on the web site,
14 in the newspapers. They'll be, hopefully, in a zillion
15 places.

16 Then hopefully we'll advertise those draft
17 maps to the public and also send them to the
18 Legislature. And for 30 days they'll be out for
19 Legislative reaction and public comment to our draft
20 map.

21 We will be coming back and having round
22 two of the public hearings during that 30 days.

23 At the end of the 30 days, we will then
24 develop a final map. And if we're not too late in the
25 process, it's our hope this final map can have a very,

1 very short time for public comment. There won't be
2 public hearings anymore. There will not be time for
3 that. We'll put it up on the website, let people
4 comment on it that way, call the Commission, write the
5 Commission, so we have a little bit of public comment.

6 And then we'll establish the final
7 district boundaries, send it to the Department of
8 Justice for approval. And then once it is approved,
9 we'll register it with the Secretary of State, and
10 that's it.

11 Now, when you came in tonight you were
12 handed a citizen input form. That's really, really
13 important. We want you to fill this out tonight and get
14 it back to us. We hope you'll fill it out tonight and
15 get it back before you leave. If you want more time to
16 think about it, you can take it home and mail it to us.
17 The address is on the bottom of the form.

18 If you do that, I encourage you not to let
19 it get lost on your desk, because we'll be drawing lines
20 very, very soon. We need your citizen input quickly so
21 we can incorporate your concerns into the final process.

22 Another way to fill it out is going to the
23 website. Our website is www.azredistricting.org. The
24 citizen input form is there, and you can fill it out on
25 the website.

1 There are three different ways to get it
2 to us.

3 The first question is your name, address,
4 and telephone number, so if we need to communicate to
5 you, we can in that way.

6 We really need that information to report
7 back to you. If you have questions, concerns, we need
8 to know how to reach you.

9 Then we want to know in a few words what
10 your major concern is, what do you think is the most
11 important aspect of this process. What boundary lines
12 would you like to see in your area? What boundary lines
13 would you not like to see in the area? If you feel a
14 particular division point would not be appropriate and
15 would be divisive and cut through a community of
16 interest, please tell us.

17 Somebody at an earlier meeting was telling
18 us an irrigation canal seemed like a natural boundary,
19 but it would cut his community in half and please don't
20 use it. That information is valuable as well.

21 What areas, groups, or neighborhoods do
22 you think absolutely should not be divided?

23 Finally, there are a series of questions
24 we ask you to react to, information you would like us to
25 take into account in drawing boundary lines in your

1 area. We list a number of things and ask you to give
2 numerical ranking:

3 Keeping a community intact or bringing
4 particular groups together, such as neighborhood
5 associations and minority group concentrations.

6 Using a man-made or natural boundary.

7 Drawing congressional or legislative
8 districts that include whole cities or as much of a city
9 as equal population permits.

10 Using local government boundaries when
11 drawing Congressional and Legislative District lines.

12 Keeping Census tracts from being split.

13 Using freeways and major transportation
14 routes for district boundaries wherever possible.

15 Drawing compact and contiguous shapes for
16 districts.

17 You can rank them as highly important, of
18 little importance, or somewhere in between.

19 As I said before, complete it now, mail it
20 in, or use the website.

21 There's the website address if you didn't
22 get it when I mentioned it.

23 If you want to get more involved, we have
24 citizen kits available to you. Our consultant will
25 assist you in you using it. If you want a citizen kit,

1 please turn in your name and address to Dr. Adams
2 tonight. We'll see you get one mailed to you.

3 The citizen kit will include detailed
4 maps. The map we gave you is like this one, this area
5 of interest. If you happened to be here tonight and
6 really live in another part of the state, let them know
7 so they give you the appropriate citizen kit.

8 The citizen kit and area kit, in this case
9 Pinal County, they'll give it to you so you can draw
10 lines. You can redistrict the whole state for us, if
11 you want to, say "These are my suggestions,"
12 understanding it has to be a viable plan that follows
13 the considerations in Proposition 106: equal
14 population, no dilution of minority interests, and the
15 other requirements in Prop 106.

16 This is the schedule. This is the first
17 round of public hearings. We'll then develop draft
18 plans, hold more public hearings, create final plans,
19 then have our submission to the Department of Justice.

20 The first round of hearings end next week,
21 a week from tomorrow, the 28th of June. We'll then take
22 probably two, three weeks or so to develop our draft
23 plan. That will be sometime toward the mid or later
24 part of July. We'll then have 30 more days of hearings
25 and public comment. Toward the end of August, very

1 early part of September, we'll adopt the final approved
2 plan of the Independent Redistricting Commission and
3 submit it to the Department of Justice.

4 We need this much time because the
5 Department of Justice may take up to four months to
6 approve it. We need to get it done by the end of the
7 year so people who want to run for office next year know
8 who can sign their petition, who can't, and also if they
9 want to run under the Clean Elections Act can get
10 funding. The law lets you get small contributions.

11 It's applauding because I'm through
12 talking.

13 Now we want to hear from you.

14 We'd ask you use the microphone.

15 Adolfo.

16 MR. ECHEVESTE: Yes. Does anyone have a
17 yellow form? Have you turned in a yellow form, if you
18 wish to speak? If you do have one, hold it up and we'll
19 pick it up. And if you come over here to the mike,
20 state your name clearly for the record and spell it for
21 us, please.

22 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Just before we
23 start, I would also like to introduce one of our two
24 legal counsel for the Commission, Lisa Hauser, counsel
25 for the Commission, who I think was late for the same

1 reason I was.

2 MS. HAUSER: I doubt it. Did you think
3 the meeting was at 7:00?

4 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Lisa got here
5 early.

6 A couple other thoughts. First, as Adolfo
7 stated, state your name and spell it for the court
8 reporter.

9 Please speak up as much as possible so
10 people in the back of the room can hear you.

11 We want you to take as much time as you
12 need to express your point of view fully and clearly.
13 Take as much time as you need, but be succinct with the
14 time to provide -- leave as much time for your fellow
15 citizens to make comments as well.

16 If you have questions for us, we'll be
17 happy to try to answer them. We may defer questions to
18 the end of the meeting in order to make sure we give
19 everybody ample time for comments.

20 Certainly if there is a misunderstanding,
21 we'll try to clarify something in order to prevent a
22 misunderstanding. We'll try to do that.

23 With that in mind, I'll call on the names
24 of people that have submitted yellow forms.

25 I want to apologize in advance to anyone

1 whose name I might mispronounce. I'll do my best.

2 Just come forward and speak into the
3 microphone here.

4 The first speaker is Pete Rios, a State
5 Senator.

6 SENATOR RIOS: Thank you. I appreciate
7 this opportunity to say a few words.

8 What I would like to initially start with
9 is I appreciate the concept that the Commission is
10 starting out with, and that is community of interest.
11 You are going to find throughout the state there's going
12 to be a lot of disagreement on what will constitute a
13 community of interest.

14 Apache Junction will tell you in their
15 district they are a community of interest. Kearny will
16 tell you the same thing. Casa Grande will tell you the
17 same thing. To a large extent, what they tell you is
18 all correct. Pinal County will tell you everybody that
19 resides in Pinal County is a community of interest. Now
20 I begin to have a problem.

21 There are a lot of different varied
22 interests in Pinal County. You cannot compare Eloy,
23 Arizona, say they are alike in every way with Gold
24 Canyon. You cannot compare Coolidge, Arizona, and say
25 they are alike with Saddlebrooke in the southern part of

1 Pinal County north of Tucson, because they are as
2 different as night and day.

3 We are going to have a major, major
4 difficult time trying to define community of interest,
5 the new buzz word.

6 I wish Sandra Day O'Connor had defined
7 community of interest. It would have been nice but not
8 as interesting.

9 Let me start reading. I did have an
10 opportunity of testifying at South Mountain Community
11 College. Why there and why here? District Seven
12 spreads by and large all over. And while I do represent
13 South Mountain, I do represent parts of Ahwatukee, parts
14 of Chandler, parts of -- all of Guadalupe. It then
15 swings out and picks up some Native American
16 Reservations as well. I represent primarily Pinal
17 County. That's the heart of District Seven.

18 Let me read a statement, if I may. I have
19 an extra copy, too, I wish to present.

20 Your goal to comply with the US
21 Constitution and US Voting Rights Act and the goal to
22 use visible geographic features, city, town, and county
23 boundaries and undivided Census tracts seems to me to be
24 in conflict. For you cannot, and I repeat, you cannot
25 maintain minority-majority districts if you insist on

1 political subdivision boundaries.

2 Although we would all like to see
3 communities like Apache Junction and Casa Grande whole,
4 how will this be done without violating the rights of
5 protected classes, not other community interests, not
6 water districts, not agricultural interests, not of
7 urban interests, because they can all be considered
8 communities of interest.

9 My concern right now is with Section Five
10 of the Voting Rights Act and how are we going to insure
11 that the protected classes in the State of Arizona, and
12 Arizona comes under preclearance? Because we in the
13 State of Arizona have proven that we can be bigoted and
14 that we can be prejudiced. That is why Federal law
15 requires preclearance. Any time we change any voting
16 law in the State of Arizona it has to be precleared by
17 the Justice Department. Any time we change anything to
18 do with voting, it has to be precleared.

19 If you put all of A.J., Casa Grande, and
20 all of Pinal County in one Legislative District, how do
21 you justify to the US Department of Justice this was
22 done at the expense of protected classes, especially
23 when the new district you all are proposing, I
24 understand what the grid is, nevertheless, that's what
25 people are reacting to, the new grid would exclude, is

1 not inclusive, excludes Indian reservations, like Fort
2 McDowell, currently part of this district, excludes Salt
3 River Indian Reservation and the Pascua Yaqui Indians in
4 Guadalupe, Arizona? Those would be removed from
5 District Seven.

6 How do you justify to the Justice
7 Department that particular move?

8 These were tribes that when they joined
9 with the Salt River Indian Reservation and the Ak-Chin
10 Indian Reservation, it provided the tribes a solid
11 political base to give them an opportunity to try to
12 elect their own candidates.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, we're talking about
14 Native Americans, talking about Indians, a major
15 protected class in the State of Arizona.

16 Additionally, your new proposed district
17 lines bring in areas like Gold Canyon with Jack Nicklaus
18 golf courses and retains areas like Saddlebrooke, a Sun
19 City-like retirement resort community, that have very
20 little in common with mining, Indians, Latinos, and blue
21 collar working families in Pinal County.

22 Where is the community of interest to
23 bring those areas in and exclude the ones I mentioned
24 previously?

25 The new proposed districts reduce

1 protected classes, specifically in District Seven, now
2 District Eight under the new maps, from 54 percent of a
3 protected class to approximately 41 percent. I guess I
4 have to ask the question: Is this not retrogression and
5 in violation of the Voting Rights Act?

6 If the Commission wishes to make Apache
7 Junction whole, and Casa Grande whole, and most of Pinal
8 whole, I ask you consider moving the district lines for
9 Globe, Miami, Morencie, Clifton, certain areas of
10 Chandler, insure the protected classes in the district
11 truly are protected. Include the Native American areas
12 I referred to earlier.

13 At the Phoenix hearing at South Mountain
14 Community College, Chairman Lynn stated "equal
15 populations is our primarily goal." Shouldn't
16 compliance with the Voting Rights Act also be a primary
17 goal, one of the primary goals?

18 One final note. I know you indicated
19 earlier and showed on a slide incumbents' residences,
20 addresses for legislators and congressional people ought
21 not to be included. Then my question is: Why were we,
22 as legislative incumbents, asked to provide our
23 residential addresses because the Commission wanted
24 them? Maybe it was your consulting firm that requested
25 them, but we were told they were for the Commission.

1 And that, we all know, is clearly in violation of the
2 law. We were asked to provide our residential address.

3 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: I want to look
4 into that right now. Who asked you to do that?

5 SENATOR RIOS: Our staff people in the
6 Senate asked that, prior to you hiring staff, after you
7 all were nominated to your post.

8 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Was it the --

9 SENATOR RIOS: Democratic staff,
10 Democratic staff.

11 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The Legislature is
12 doing a parallel process. That is the confusion.

13 SENATOR RIOS: Way before anybody was
14 drawing maps.

15 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: We intend to live
16 and die by the rules.

17 SENATOR RIOS: That's why I bring it to
18 you and why I brought it.

19 DR. ADAMS: Probably Legislative counsel.

20 MS. HAUSER: One other Senator wanted to
21 fill out a citizen input form. I suggested to simply
22 use a business office address, home phone number, but at
23 least, you know, NDC could go ahead and contact you.
24 That's the way to get around that on the form.

25 SENATOR RIOS: I use my part-time Apache

1 Junction residence, not my permanent residence, because
2 I have resided in Apache Junction since 1990.

3 And you'll hear from a lot of people
4 Apache Junction doesn't have a voice. Yet when they
5 dealt with major issues impacting Apache Junction, this
6 is the voice there fighting for them.

7 When somebody wanted legislation on issues
8 that had to do with the development of fees for schools,
9 it was Senator Rios that introduced that legislation
10 twice.

11 When people wanted the Superstition
12 Mountains protected as primitive areas, it was Pete
13 Rios.

14 MS. GILL: Are we going to have a campaign
15 speech here?

16 SENATOR RIOS: I'll quit here.

17 As far as Apache Junction not having a
18 voice, my point is they do have a voice. The other
19 voice is the Floor Leader of the Senate, Jack Brown.

20 Let me conclude by saying if we make the
21 communities whole, which I hope we can, I hope the
22 majority of this Commission agrees the primary goal is
23 protected classes not be reduced in numbers. That is
24 clearly something the Justice Department will be looking
25 at.

1 With that I will conclude and thank you.

2 (Microphone feedback was heard.)

3 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you. Thank
4 you, but not for the last.

5 The next speaker is Doug Coleman, Mayor of
6 Apache Junction.

7 MAYOR COLEMAN: Get rid of all the
8 politicians first.

9 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: You turned yours
10 in first is the reason.

11 MAYOR COLEMAN: I'm pleased you came to
12 our community to get our input. I, in talking about
13 communities of interest, one of the things -- I'm
14 pleased to see that is one of the six goals is to keep
15 municipalities, as far as possibility, within the same
16 region.

17 Senator Rios brought up a lot of points
18 where he has helped us. One of the things --

19 Sorry. I'm Douglas Coleman,
20 D O U G L A S, C O L E M A N.

21 One of the things that I know I feel like
22 is that when they split us up before, part of the
23 community is represented by District Four, which is, you
24 know, the representative lives up in the White
25 Mountains; District Seven, Senator Rios claims part-time

1 residence here, although I believe his permanent address
2 is Dudleyville. And District 26 --

3 A VOICE: Russell Bowers.

4 MAYOR COLEMAN: -- Russell Bowers. Shows
5 how much I know.

6 Talk about local representation, which I
7 believe -- there's a feeling that we don't have local
8 representation. Whether that is a fact or not I'm not
9 going to argue. There's a feeling there's no one from
10 our community in the State Legislature.

11 Because Jack Brown, there's totally
12 different problems in the area he's from than we have
13 down here.

14 He mentioned the mining communities. Back
15 in the 1890s, they did a lot of mining out here; but we
16 don't have mining, copper mining, per se.

17 When I think of communities of interest, I
18 think of taxing authorities, municipalities, and school
19 districts, which their boundaries do not -- more often
20 than not do not match a municipal boundary, counties,
21 those types of entities.

22 People are very interested in their taxes.
23 And government represents, to a lot of people, their
24 taxes. And that's one reason why I believe
25 municipalities shouldn't be divided up.

1 When you put up the gerrymandering thing,
2 I thought: That's Apache Junction. Minority, three
3 different Districts. We have to talk to three different
4 Senators and six -- but we're a minority in each one.

5 Also, when I think of a community of
6 interest, we have common problems, like transportation.
7 You know, what regional council, you know, is the
8 community represented by, as far as transportation
9 dollars. Some of the federal funding that comes down
10 from that.

11 Those are things I would like to be
12 considered.

13 My main reason for standing today was to
14 ask that when you consider areas, and I know that the
15 Justice Department has their requirements, but let the
16 Justice Department determine that, I think, as much as
17 possible. Try to let those that live and associate and
18 work together be together so when we have discussions
19 about what is going on with the State Legislature we
20 know who we're talking about and don't have to try to
21 find out who the people are, where they live, who is
22 represented by whom. Let people who may live next door,
23 a block over, be in the same zip code, and the same --
24 you know, we work next door to each other, but we're in
25 two completely different districts. And it's only the

1 district that is different as far as the taxing
2 authority.

3 That's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

5 The next speaker is Sharron Gill.

6 MS. GILL: S H A R R O N, G I L L.

7 I have to kind of ditto a lot of what
8 Mayor Coleman said. I wasn't going to give what my
9 title is. I was going to be just Sharron Gill citizen.
10 I'm Chairman of the Pinal County Republican Committee,
11 travel the county quite a bit and know quite a few
12 people in different areas of the county.

13 I see a county that is almost split in
14 half. Like Senator Rios was saying, communities of
15 interest, Gold Canyon, I too have much of the same
16 interests as Eloy. Quite a few people in Eloy have
17 similar interests as mine. But you have Gold Canyon,
18 Apache Junction, in a contiguous area which has very
19 like interests to East Mesa, Gilbert, whatever, that
20 area.

21 A lot of people in our area shop, work, do
22 a lot of things in East Mesa.

23 Saddlebrooke, you might as well draw a
24 line down Pinal County almost. Saddlebrooke is another
25 community like Gold Canyon. Senator Rios so eloquently

1 separated us from the rest of the community, like
2 Saddlebrooke found in the Northern Pinal County Tucson
3 community.

4 It's very difficult, as the Mayor said.
5 We have a county split up in numerous representations.
6 The east -- western part of our county has, you know --
7 we don't even -- those people don't even come to the
8 county and they represent part of Pinal County. The
9 county is just chopped to smithereens with, again, as
10 the Mayor said, people representing us that have no idea
11 what is going on half the time.

12 I would like to see some more contiguous
13 areas be made and communities that are like-minded.

14 As I said, the county, they almost split
15 it in half, and Saddlebrooke down one end.

16 Another thing I wanted to mention, as long
17 as the Senator made a little campaign speech there,
18 Pinal County demographically, and has been for years and
19 years and years, has been predominantly one party.
20 Speaking as a person from the minority party, I'd like
21 to be given a little chance to run for office and win.

22 Thank you.

23 Oh. I want to keep my Congressman.

24 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

25 The next speaker is Rosemary Shearer.

1 MS. SHEARER: I really don't --

2 Oh, R O S E M A R Y, S H E A R E R.

3 I live in a terrible place, Gold Canyon.

4 I happen to be of another party stripe. I
5 do not feel we've been represented at all under the
6 current gerrymandering, which is a new word to me, too,
7 tonight.

8 We did bring one of our Representatives
9 down, as a matter of fact, to introduce that person to
10 our area. And I don't believe that he had driven off
11 Highway 60 in 15 years. So it was quite enlightening
12 for him and all of us.

13 I have to say once he was here and his
14 eyes were open, we were able to work with him rather
15 successfully.

16 What is it, 150 miles away and he lives
17 practically in New Mexico and is representing us? It
18 just doesn't wash at all.

19 I definitely would like to see this as an
20 area of interest here. I think we are in this portion
21 more urban than rural.

22 I have to say I don't agree with the East
23 Mesa people very often, either.

24 You can't go by party lines either.

25 My question tonight is one thing. And

1 that is what is the basic or minimum number or target
2 number per district? I haven't seen that stated
3 anywhere.

4 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: It's on our
5 website. I don't have the exact number. But a
6 Legislative District is about 171,000 people.

7 MS. SHEARER: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: For a Congressional
9 District it's a little over 642, 643 thousand, something
10 like that.

11 MS. SHEARER: That would make a tremendous
12 difference in geographical size. If you identify the
13 geographical difference of District Four, unless you
14 have a helicopter, tires alone, let alone gas, would
15 make it be prohibitive.

16 I think contiguity is important. That's
17 why the number is important to me.

18 That's all I had. I did want to know what
19 that was.

20 I have another question on the website. I
21 notice now there are two rectangles that are
22 interactive. Will you enlarge the interactiveness of
23 the maps so we can look more closely as you move down
24 the line here with the redistricting?

25 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Yes. We'll enhance

1 the maps. As we have drafts of maps, we'll try to put
2 them on there. We'll put as much information on there
3 as we can.

4 MR. PISANO: Your comments are very weak.
5 If you could speak up, we'd appreciate it.

6 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Okay.

7 MS. SHEARER: I keep clicking, and guess
8 what, there's Maricopa County and Pima County.

9 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: It's a grid. We
10 took pains to emphasize they are grids, not a map.
11 Proposition 106 required we start with a grid. In
12 developing the districts under Proposition 106, they'll
13 be there. As we develop more detail, people will see
14 where districts would be.

15 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: I'm wondering if
16 it's possible to bring chairs up, if possible. This
17 room is a very disbursed room in the back. We have no
18 amplification.

19 We'll do our best. If you can't hear back
20 there, you might try to move forward a bit.

21 Thank you very much.

22 The next speaker, Barbara Gardner.

23 MS. GARDNER: B A R B A R A,
24 G A R D N E R, 685 Tepee Street, Apache Junction.

25 I'm here speaking on behalf of myself, my

1 personal voice.

2 I'm President of the Apache Junction
3 Library Board.

4 I'd like to share with you different
5 experiences. I won't go into all my experiences. It's
6 hard to go into the issue we need to address.

7 To have to figure out who all the
8 different representatives are, who all the different
9 people are you need to contact, especially if not all
10 the people live in the different areas, I have had
11 occasions where I need to contact people, and it's very
12 difficult if representing the City of Apache Junction to
13 figure out who to contact.

14 I'd like to see the City of Apache
15 Junction kept together, work with the City of Apache
16 Junction staff, look to areas designated as potential
17 incorporation areas, and I'd also like to consider those
18 in keeping them in the same area.

19 Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

21 The next speaker is Sandie Smith.

22 MS. SMITH: I, too, am not going to draw
23 lines. I would like to call your attention to some
24 things.

25 My name is Sandie Smith, S A N D I E,

1 S M I T H. I live at 10211 East Rising Sun Place, but
2 my office here in Apache Junction is at 575 North Idaho.

3 I would like to tell you that the three
4 districts we have here in Apache Junction, 21, 7, and 4,
5 there are five Republicans and four Democrats that are
6 Representatives in the state, you know, and two in the
7 State Legislature, but 21 kind of looks like -- it looks
8 weighted. And 21, it's just one or two precincts; it's
9 a very small precinct. That precinct I'd like you all
10 to look at. There's one precinct left on the little
11 map, just boundaries, left into the east valley.

12 I'm not afraid of having some of the east
13 valley put into Pinal County to make sure we guarantee
14 the minority rights. I would welcome that.

15 I would like to talk to you about some of
16 the problems we have that are regional, things you need
17 to look at, communities of interest in my office I deal
18 with.

19 First of all, even though we have urban
20 pockets, we consider ourselves rural. We'd like to
21 still identify with a rural lifestyle. There are forest
22 lands, scenic beauty we seek to protect.

23 We'd like to be able to be with like
24 parties.

25 We have farming, including in Queen Creek

1 right down from us here, still one of the major use of
2 lands spilling over as Maricopa County comes and grows
3 this way.

4 Ranching and ranching leases come right up
5 to the foothills of the Superstitions, comes right to
6 the south of the highway, city, and is bordered on
7 Ironwood, all ranching leases, active ranching. The
8 foothills, of course, we dearly love.

9 Tourism, economic development, is some of
10 our greatest challenges. There is a unit called AAG,
11 Arizona Association of Governments, two counties, Pinal
12 and Gila. That's where we look to for transportation
13 dollars and dollars to divvy out for federal projects.

14 We certainly could not compete with MAG,
15 Maricopa Association of Governments, in order to get
16 funding, or PIGLA, Pinal Gila, Gila Behavioral Health
17 Association, which delivers all behavioral health monies
18 for Pinal and Gila. That, again, is like interests.

19 I'd like you to consider health issues,
20 transportation issues, state land.

21 50 percent of us is state land.

22 And also our preservation efforts.

23 But as you look towards making this equal,
24 communities of interest, as you've heard, we're very
25 diverse in Pinal County and also very proud of being

1 diverse and would like to balance that diversity,
2 including with our minorities, retain the numbers we
3 have and still be able to be whole and be able to speak
4 as one voice.

5 Thank you very much for your efforts on
6 that part. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
8 is Dora Vasquez.

9 MS. VASQUEZ: Good evening. I spoke
10 before you in Casa Grande.

11 I'm Dora Vasquez, D O R A, V A S Q U E Z.
12 I'm here on behalf of my community of interest, Pinal
13 NAACP, Pinal Hispanic Community Forum, and I'm Chair of
14 the Arizona Civil Rights Advisory Board to you.

15 I want to make sure the other side of the
16 community comes up with issues, knows what we've come up
17 with, the Hispanic Forum, on the initial grids, not only
18 for Pinal County overall, but as to the retrogression of
19 minority-majority districts.

20 Currently there are seven
21 minority-majority districts. Logically, you said
22 population increased 40 percent. It would make sense,
23 particularly, as that has increased, Hispanics has also.
24 Minority-majority districts should increase, not
25 decrease. We're thinking as much as 10, not five. We

1 won't be happy with just seven, what we started with.
2 We'd like to see more.

3 The grids as represented indicate minority
4 dilution in several Legislative Districts in direct
5 violation -- not of Arizona, but of the Voting Rights
6 Act.

7 It appears in some areas, in the
8 Congressional District map, the western boundaries were
9 designed to protect a Congressman's district. I know I
10 previously addressed this, while they removed a
11 Congressman's residence in the southern part of the
12 state, therefore, the only minority Congressman may lose
13 his prime minority district.

14 There are questions I have about Pinal
15 County.

16 This evening there was a Democratic Party
17 meeting. Folks are not represented. Folks I spoke
18 with, speaking of the Chair of the Democratic Party, I
19 see the Queen Creek area, Superior area, moved to a
20 different district, moved back, while another area would
21 stay whole.

22 I have a personal question. On the
23 comment cards, community of interests are identified.
24 Is there a way for the public to have access to the
25 information before you create the maps so we understand

1 why the maps were created in the fashion they were,
2 posted on the web, say perhaps these statements came in,
3 these communities of interest were identified?

4 DR. ADAMS: There will be summaries of
5 each meeting available on the website. We'll defer to
6 the attorney as to whether full transcripts of each
7 meeting will be available.

8 MS. HAUSER: Full transcripts of each
9 meeting will be available. The main question, whether
10 or not they'll be on the website, I will double-check on
11 that.

12 But at minimum, they are available through
13 the Commission offices, if you would like to get copies
14 of the transcripts. Hopefully they will be on the
15 website.

16 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Did the question
17 include other citizen copies?

18 MS. VASQUEZ: Citizen analysis
19 information, reading the judgments, the data this
20 community of interest was identified for this reason.

21 DR. ADAMS: Yes, absolutely, this area.
22 That's what we're doing currently. We're doing that.
23 All the information comes from each area, the citizen
24 input forms. As things come in from the website,
25 information comes in through these meetings via the

1 transcripts and summarizing information, so you'll have
2 an opportunity to see that on the website.

3 MS. VASQUEZ: Before maps are created at a
4 working meeting where the public can discuss that?

5 DR. ADAMS: Yes. Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: There will be
7 several working meetings with public comment at the
8 beginning and end of the meeting.

9 MS. VASQUEZ: But this format won't be?

10 COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: After we have a
11 draft map, after the draft map, we'll go out before the
12 final maps.

13 MS. VASQUEZ: I don't want to lose the
14 interest. It's a long, drawn-out process. There's very
15 little minority representation at these meetings. I'm
16 hoping to drum up some more. I wanted to have the facts
17 straight to relay that to my folks.

18 Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

20 The next speaker is Jerry Michaels.

21 MR. MICHAELS: I'll stand down. The folks
22 were real good. I don't think I have much more to say.

23 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

24 Landis Aden.

25 MR. ADEN: I'll pass, also.

1 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Then we're down to
2 the last slip I have.

3 I'd like to say before I read this name,
4 if anyone else has been inspired or came in late and
5 wants to make a comment, please raise your hand. We'll
6 see you get one of the yellow forms to fill out and be
7 sure you get a chance.

8 The next speaker is George Diehl.

9 MR. DIEHL: My name is George,
10 G E O R G E, Diehl, D I E H L.

11 I live in the Apache Junction area,
12 Legislative Area 21.

13 We have three legislative districts.
14 Apache Junction is a joke, an insult at times that
15 Apache Junction districting in Pinal County represents
16 us. It's not the mining industry, not the dollar
17 people. And also I find it an insult to get up here and
18 say because Hispanic, black, white, green, whatever
19 color, I thought we were all created equal. It's time
20 we quit driving stakes between us and unite America. If
21 we did that, 90 percent of the trouble would be over
22 with.

23 Get up and continue with what we've done
24 in the past 20 years or 25 years. What we've done in
25 Arizona is also bad. Let's look to the future.

1 If we're going to make Arizona work, look
2 to what makes Arizona work.

3 I'm happy with our congressional
4 delegation. They're doing a good job. There are areas
5 of Pinal County throughout Arizona, rich with poor, and
6 poor with rich. Sooner or later, let's get somebody
7 that represents us.

8 Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

10 We have one more speaker, Napoleon Pisano.

11 MR. PISANO: Napoleon Pisano, P I S A N O.

12 I'm a resident of Mesa East Valley, pretty
13 close to the border. A lot of things that happen here
14 affect me.

15 You have a big task in front of you.
16 You've been asked to do something politicians have been
17 doing for a lot of years and oftentimes excluded the
18 population. We want to be included. We want to be
19 represented. We want to be heard. We want to be able
20 to express our needs, concerns, our interests. We're
21 all one.

22 I appreciate what you said about bringing
23 this country together. Absolutely. I was there. I
24 fought for you.

25 At the same time, I look across the

1 government in Arizona, and it's not reflective of the
2 population at large. I look across the decision makers
3 in the east valley, and they are not reflective of the
4 population at large.

5 I look at different boards, commissions,
6 and they are not reflective of the population at large.

7 I'm concerned as we go forward, we're
8 inclusive, not exclusive.

9 Keep us in mind. Provide a fair,
10 equitable opportunity for all of us to participate.
11 That's what I'd ask of you.

12 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

13 We have one more late entry.

14 Thank you.

15 The last speaker, I believe, Dr. Carlos
16 Vallejo.

17 DR. VALLEJO: Good evening. As I was
18 listening --

19 Carlos Vallejo, V A L L E J O. I live in
20 Mesa at 4238 East Holmes Circle. I'm still trying to
21 memorize my address because I just moved there. I hope
22 I can find my way home.

23 Again, listening to comments, I think my
24 contribution for tonight is we work together.

25 One of the things that we have done, I

1 have in the past few years served on a number of
2 initiatives for the City of Mesa that were designed or
3 are designed to bring people together collectively. I
4 think that's what we need to do.

5 I am presently the Chairperson of a newly
6 created Coalition or Chapter to the Arizona Hispanic
7 Coalition Forum. We represent a number of communities
8 in the southeast valley. I don't think it's intentional
9 that we drive wedges between us. I think these meetings
10 are designed to bring people together to the table as
11 equals. That's what we need to move forward with.

12 We can read the history. Let's look
13 forward.

14 And as Chair of the East Valley Hispanic
15 Chapter, I would like to put before this group that
16 we're here to help, not to do it.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

19 Well, we don't appear to have any more
20 requests to speak.

21 I would like to offer you an opportunity
22 if you have any questions of us, to take advantage of
23 this opportunity to ask us. At some of our more formal
24 meetings, at our more formal meetings, we really don't
25 have an opportunity for interaction with members of the

1 public. There's an opportunity for the public to speak,
2 but the opportunity for us to respond is not present
3 because of restrictions of the open meeting law. So
4 this is really a chance to talk to each other.

5 I'd offer you the opportunity to ask us
6 questions at this time, if you have any.

7 MS. SMITH: Are you aware of the CAG,
8 Central Association of Government, MAG, all of them,
9 PUF, regional deliveries of health care? Do you have
10 those boundaries you are looking at?

11 I would encourage you to look at that,
12 also, on how health services are delivered and how
13 transportation issues are discussed.

14 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

15 Yes, sir.

16 MR. ADEN: Landis, L A N D I S, last name
17 Aden, A D E N.

18 Do you have available definitions of the
19 different terminology you're using, like natural
20 boundary, man-made boundary, communities of interest?

21 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: You know, we
22 were -- we received Proposition 106 just as you did. We
23 read it just as you do. We do have legal counsel to
24 advise us when we have questions.

25 We're just getting started. There is no

1 precedent for Proposition 106 and we're addressing
2 questions as they mature and as we come to them one day
3 at a time, one question at a time.

4 Communities of interest is a term, as
5 Senator Rios mentioned, used by Sandra Day O'Connor in a
6 Supreme Court decision. She didn't define it. We have
7 to work with that.

8 Natural boundaries, I haven't thought to
9 ask for that, a definition of that term.

10 We're looking at it intuitively as you
11 would, any other citizen would, as they read Proposition
12 106.

13 Our legal counsel might be willing to
14 offer us all her interpretation of the term "communities
15 of interest," and maybe some of the other terminology as
16 well. I'm sure we'll ask for other definitions as well.

17 MR. ADEN: I'd ask they be posted.

18 MS. HAUSER: Communities of interest, it
19 has come up in a number of cases since Justice O'Connor
20 coined the phrase.

21 It really is what you say it is. It is
22 self-defined. It depends on the area of the country or
23 the area of a state that is undergoing this kind of
24 process. Sometimes it focuses on economic issues.
25 Sometimes it focuses on -- sometimes it does involve

1 education, rural versus urban, those kind of issues. It
2 really can be just about anything. Sometimes it's
3 Native American tribal lands, all kinds of issues. So
4 really, that's the purpose of these meetings is for us
5 to define, through you, the communities of interest that
6 exist out there. And it can be cities and involve
7 geographic boundaries as well as fall over into another
8 category.

9 Dr. Adams will say more about natural
10 boundaries.

11 DR. ADAMS: Natural boundaries would be
12 something like mountain ranges, rivers, streams, that
13 sort of thing.

14 In California we had one legislative
15 district from desert to mountain to sea district. It
16 literally went through the desert, across the mountains,
17 and across to the ocean, all the way across California.
18 I would probably suggest that that might cross some
19 natural boundaries.

20 You can define yourself areas and mountain
21 ranges you think should be together.

22 As far as man-made boundaries, you're
23 looking at canals, man-made boundaries, freeways,
24 highways, those kind of things tend to divide
25 communities, cut through communities.

1 You may find you have a freeway dividing a
2 community. That is something we hope you tell us. If
3 you don't think that freeway is a man-made boundary that
4 should be respected or major road that should be
5 respected as a community on either side self-identified,
6 that's something else we'd like to know.

7 MR. ADEN: That does help.

8 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

9 Anyone have any other questions?

10 MR. DIEHL: Does that include, talking
11 about people running for election, state legislature,
12 federal elections?

13 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: We do federal
14 districts and state legislative districts. Same rules
15 apply to both for Proposition 106.

16 MR. DIEHL: All right.

17 COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: If there are no
18 further questions, then, I once again on behalf of the
19 Independent Redistricting Commission would like to thank
20 all of you for taking your valuable time to come here
21 tonight and share your ideas and insights with us. This
22 is very helpful and exactly the kind of information
23 we'll need in order to do our job properly.

24 Yes. Let me also say, we expect to put
25 out our next set of maps, actually the first set of real

1 maps, in mid to late July and then schedule another
2 round of public hearings. We hope to see you all again
3 in about two months.

4 Thank you all very much.

5 (Whereupon, the hearing concluded at
6 approximately 7:40 p.m.)

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2 STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
3 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

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6 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing hearing was
7 taken before me, LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Certified
8 Court Reporter in and for the State of Arizona,
9 Certificate Number 50349; that the proceedings were
10 taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to
11 typewriting under my direction; that the foregoing 58
12 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all
13 proceedings had upon the taking of said hearing, all
14 done to the best of my ability.

15 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way
16 related to any of the parties hereto, nor am I in any
17 way interested in the outcome hereof.

18 DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 23rd day
19 of June, 2001.

20

21

LISA A. NANCE, RPR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate Number 50349

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