

**ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

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November 5, 2011  
9 a.m.

**Location**

Desert Hills Social Center  
Desert Hills Auditorium  
2800 South Camino del Sol  
Green Valley, Arizona 85622

**Attending**

Richard P. Stertz, Commissioner  
  
Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director  
Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist

**PREPARED BY:**

AZ Litigation Support, LLC  
Michelle D. Elam, CR  
Certified Reporter  
CR No. 50637

1 Green Valley, Arizona  
2 November 5, 2011  
3 9 a.m.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Good morning,  
5 everyone.

6 Welcome to the Arizona Independent  
7 Redistricting Commission meeting for the 11th -- or  
8 excuse me, the 5th of November, 2011.

9 My name is Rick Stertz, and the time is 9  
10 o'clock, and we're going to start this right on time  
11 this morning.

12 A couple of things. I know that this has  
13 been a fairly emotional week. You've read a lot of  
14 things in the newspaper and heard things. And our  
15 goal today is -- by the way, we are not  
16 live-streaming today. There is no Internet  
17 availability for this. So the other commissioners  
18 will be able to watch today's -- or this morning's  
19 events recorded after the event. So they won't be  
20 able to be watching you today, but please, feel free  
21 while you're giving your testimony to give comment  
22 to anybody else that would be watching.

23 The course of this week has been a  
24 challenging one for the Commission and it's been a  
25 very interesting and cathartic one for me as well.

1 I know this community of Green Valley  
2 quite well. I've been coming here since I was -- my  
3 parents started coming here when I was 12 years old  
4 and it was Fairfield, not Green Valley.

5 The Elks Club right behind us over here,  
6 my father and I helped design and build it. So I  
7 know this community. I know the community well.

8 I've got a lot of passion for Green  
9 Valley and Sahuarita.

10 And just from this commissioner's point  
11 of view, I'll be working extremely diligently to put  
12 this back together. I just wanted to tell you that  
13 from right out of the gates.

14 It's also cathartic because I dropped off  
15 my nephew at my mother's house who lives over at  
16 Abrego Drive, just off of Abrego and Alpine Circle  
17 because we're having to empty her house out today  
18 because she won't be coming home. She's being moved  
19 into a center this next week.

20 It's a day of transition. From being  
21 here for 39 years visiting Green Valley from when it  
22 was a small bedroom retirement community to the  
23 thriving community of Green Valley, Sahuarita,  
24 Tubac, that it's become a really dynamic place for  
25 people to live, to enjoy, and to experience, and I

1 believe it's a joy for me to be here.

2           Before we get started I want to make some  
3 quick introductions to the folks that are here and  
4 before we start taking public testimony.

5           To my left I have Andrew Drechsler  
6 representing Strategic Telemetry.

7           To my right I have our court reporter.  
8 Her name is Michelle Elam and she has been traveling  
9 around to various locations throughout the state.

10           Behind the black box over there is Buck  
11 Forst. He is our chief technology officer. Buck is  
12 in control of making sure the mics are running right  
13 and streaming and the video is controlled.

14           At the back of the room we have our  
15 deputy executive director, Kristina Gomez. And I  
16 want to make sure that if anyone has a need for  
17 anything at all, that you contact -- pardon me, I've  
18 got Christmas bells on my phone.

19           We also have Shane Shields and Karen  
20 Herrman who are helping with us. They are the  
21 greeters that met you when you came in the door  
22 today.

23           So before we get started with anything  
24 else, I want to everyone stand for the Pledge of  
25 Allegiance.

1 (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

2 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: I just love  
3 starting meetings out like that.

4 There are some few ground rules that we  
5 have. Currently, we have about 23 requests to  
6 speak -- Kristina, you might have a few more.

7 I'm going to try to hold -- depending on  
8 how everyone's temperament is, try to hold it to ---  
9 we'll set a timer at -- if everybody is okay with  
10 spending a couple of hours together, if I've got 25  
11 or 26 request to speak, four minutes, I think  
12 everybody can get their thoughts in at that.

13 Please -- what I'll do is I'll call out  
14 three names in advance so the people that will be on  
15 deck and waiting up will be able to get their  
16 thoughts in order before they come up and speak.

17 Also try to address -- the goal of this  
18 is to really get facts -- really get as factual  
19 information as possible about what your thoughts are  
20 not only about what the Commission has done so far,  
21 about what you would like to see happen. If it's  
22 down to the street level, give us that counsel. If  
23 you like what we're doing, tell us. If you don't  
24 like what we're doing, you can share that with us as  
25 well.

1           So before we get started with anything  
2 else, we're going to turn it over to Andrew  
3 Drechsler and he'll give you sort of an overview of  
4 the redistricting process.

5           ANDREW DRECHSLER: Thank you very much,  
6 Commissioner.

7           As Commissioner Stertz mentioned, I'm  
8 going to do a quick overview of the process and give  
9 you a little insight and show you what some of the  
10 -- what we were working with before we show you the  
11 draft maps today.

12           The Arizona redistricting process is  
13 governed by the state Constitution as amended by  
14 voters in 2000 with the passage of Proposition 106.

15           It stipulates that the Arizona  
16 Independent Redistricting Commission shall redraw  
17 Arizona's congressional and legislative districts to  
18 reflect the results of the most recent census.

19           Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a  
20 congressional seat. So we're going to be going from  
21 eight congressional seats to nine congressional  
22 seats.

23           The state senate will remain at 30 seats  
24 and nested within the state senate we have two house  
25 members, so that will remain at 60. So we're moving

1 up on the congressional side and remaining the same.

2           What are the requirements of the state  
3 Constitution for Proposition 106?

4           New district boundaries must A, comply  
5 with the U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights  
6 Act.

7           B, be equal population.

8           Equal population for the congressional is  
9 down to one person. So the districts are all the  
10 same, and I think there's one district that has one  
11 additional person.

12           And on the legislative side it can be  
13 within 10 percent. I think we're under 5 percent on  
14 that, but that just gives you a sense of what equal  
15 population means for both congressional and  
16 legislative.

17           Criteria A and B are federally mandated.

18           So the other four are sort of unique to  
19 Arizona. To the extent practicable, the districts  
20 must be C, compact and contiguous; D, respect  
21 communities of interest; E, use visible geographic  
22 features, city, town, and county boundaries and  
23 undivided census tracts; and F, favor competitive  
24 districts when no significant detriment to other  
25 goals.

1 I just wanted to go over the Voting  
2 Rights Act.

3 The Arizona congressional and legislative  
4 districts must receive preclearance or approval from  
5 the Department of Justice or a federal court under  
6 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act before they can  
7 take effect.

8 To get preclearance, Arizona must  
9 demonstrate that the new districts do not  
10 discriminate against minority voters in purpose or  
11 effect, which means there can be no intentional or  
12 accidental discrimination.

13 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting  
14 plans cannot be retrogressive. The plans cannot  
15 weaken or reduce the minority voters' rights.

16 The presence of discrimination can be  
17 determined by analyzing population data and election  
18 results.

19 We wanted to quickly give an overview  
20 from a former Department of Justice official. He  
21 has a short video for us.

22 ((Mr. Bruce Adelson's video presentation  
23 was played.))

24 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Next we wanted to just  
25 do a quick overview of the timeline of the whole



1 redistricting process and in simpler terms break it  
2 down into six steps.

3           Earlier this year we set up the  
4 Commission. The Commission was set up and  
5 commissioners were appointed following a thorough  
6 screening process. And basically what was needed to  
7 be done was create a state agency.

8           Each of the commissioners serve in a  
9 voluntary, unpaid role for the Commission.

10           The next step was this first round of  
11 hearings. Before drawing a single line, the  
12 Commission met 23 times around the state in July and  
13 August to get input from the members of the public  
14 about issues relevant to redistricting such as  
15 geography, community of interest, minority voting  
16 rights, and competitiveness.

17           The third step was the mapping.

18           Per Proposition 106, we needed to start  
19 with a clean slate. So we couldn't take into  
20 consideration any of the old lines or where any of  
21 the incumbents lived.

22           Then the next step was to create a grid  
23 -- to create a grid map. So the state was divided  
24 into equal population and compact grid-like  
25 districts and the grid map was approved on

1 August 18th.

2           After August 18th and after adopting the  
3 grid map, the Commission met more than 25 times to  
4 consider adjustments to the grid map to accommodate  
5 all state constitutional criteria.

6           During this time, they received  
7 additional public comment and additional draft maps.  
8           Approval of the draft maps.

9           On October 3rd, the Commission approved  
10 the draft congressional map that incorporated  
11 changes based on all of the constitutional criteria  
12 and it approved the draft legislative map on  
13 October 18th, again taking into consideration the  
14 state Constitution and the criteria.

15           We're currently in step four, and your  
16 part of it today is the second round of hearings.  
17 We are visiting 30 towns and cities around the state  
18 to gather additional comments and public opinion  
19 during the months of October and November. So  
20 that's why we're here today is to hear what your  
21 comments are on the maps.

22           Step five is the final maps. After the  
23 public comment period, the Commission will adopt  
24 final maps.

25           And then step six is preclearance. As we

1 mentioned before, because Arizona is subject to  
2 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, the district  
3 maps must be approved by the federal Department of  
4 Justice or a federal court in Washington, D.C.  
5 before they can be used for Arizona's elections.

6           Before we show you the grid map, I just  
7 wanted to step back a couple of steps and show you  
8 where we were last time.

9           The map that you see here up on the  
10 screen is the map, the congressional map that was  
11 approved last -- by the last Commission and was most  
12 recently used in the 2010 elections.

13           Per Proposition 106, we started off with  
14 a clean slate and then we proceeded to the grid  
15 maps.

16           Again, the grid map only took into  
17 consideration two of the six criteria. It took into  
18 consideration equal population and compactness.

19           So from there, the Commission then met  
20 over 25 times the end of August, September, and  
21 October to come up with the draft map that you see  
22 here.

23           Some highlights of the draft map.

24           It has two predominantly rural districts,  
25 three border districts, it has three districts in

1 the Greater Tucson region, five districts that are  
2 entirely within Maricopa County. It avoids  
3 splitting Arizona's Indian reservations and has two  
4 districts where minority voters have the opportunity  
5 to elect a candidate of their choice.

6 The legislative map followed a very  
7 similar process.

8 Again, here is the map that was approved  
9 by the last Commission and was most recently used in  
10 the 2010 elections.

11 Then the next -- the first step was per  
12 Proposition 106, we started with a clean slate. We  
13 didn't take into consideration previous lines on  
14 either the legislative or the congressional and then  
15 we moved to the grid map.

16 The grid map, again, takes into  
17 consideration -- takes consideration of equal  
18 population and compact.

19 Again, after the Commission met, they  
20 approved the draft map that you see here. The draft  
21 map was approved on October 10th.

22 Some highlights of the map, the old  
23 districts that you saw on the map that was just used  
24 in 2010 -- in the 2010 elections, the population  
25 ranged from 155,000 to 378,000. Big reason that we

1 do redistricting is because population shifts and we  
2 want to make sure that one vote, one person is equal  
3 as possible.

4 Under the current map, it ranges  
5 between -- the population ranges from 207,000 to  
6 215,000.

7 Again, we were allowed to go up to  
8 10 percent per the Constitution, and I think we're  
9 under 5 percent deviation on here.

10 To comply with the Voting Rights Act, the  
11 draft map includes ten districts which minority  
12 voters have the opportunity to elect the candidate  
13 of their choice.

14 The draft map includes three districts  
15 wholly within Pima County and three additional  
16 districts in Southern Arizona, seventeen districts  
17 primarily within Maricopa County, and nine districts  
18 primarily rural.

19 We want to hear what your input is.

20 As Commissioner Stertz mentioned, you can  
21 fill out one of the yellow sheets and speak and give  
22 us your comments today, what you like, what you  
23 don't like about the maps. You can talk about any  
24 of the constitutional criteria, about the -- comment  
25 on the congressional map, on the legislative map.

1           Besides talking today, the other way to  
2 submit public input is at the back of the packets  
3 you'll see there's a blue sheet that was attached.  
4 You can either tear that off and fill that out and  
5 hand it in today if you don't feel comfortable  
6 speaking in front of everybody.

7           At the bottom of the blue sheet there's  
8 an address. You can mail that in to the Commission  
9 or on our website at [www.redistricting.org](http://www.redistricting.org) you'll  
10 have to opportunity to submit public comments that  
11 way. And there's also telephone numbers both on the  
12 bottom of the sheet and the website that you can  
13 call the Commission office and give comment to us  
14 there.

15           This is just a screenshot of our website.  
16 I just wanted to highlight a couple of things that  
17 might be helpful for you.

18           On the top left, you see a link to the  
19 maps. If you click on that, you will see a number  
20 of different variations of the maps throughout the  
21 process, the grid maps.

22           The commissioners, during that period  
23 between the grid maps and the approval of the draft  
24 maps, asked for a number of what-if maps. So all of  
25 those are listed up there, but most importantly the

1 draft maps are located there.

2           You have meeting information. One of the  
3 things that we have done is show all of the meetings  
4 from the beginning of the Commission through today.  
5 And there is video of all of the meetings. So if  
6 you wanted to watch how the draft maps came  
7 together, you can watch or read the transcripts of  
8 those meetings. I think there's over a hundred  
9 hours of meetings and transcripts in there. So if  
10 anybody is bored tonight, you can start in on that.

11           There's opportunities to give public  
12 comment. You can click on that and give us your  
13 feedback.

14           And down at the bottom there's another  
15 place where you can find the draft maps. If you  
16 click on either of these, it will take you to a page  
17 that looks like this.

18           On this page is a wealth of information.  
19 You've got a lot of information today in your  
20 packets, and I think there's even additional  
21 information on here that you can go look at.

22           First of all, you have the maps in a  
23 variety of different formats and there's a number of  
24 different reports. The splits report, for example,  
25 compares the draft maps versus the maps that were

1 used in the 2010 election.

2           There's a compactness report, there's a  
3 competitiveness report. So there's just a lot of  
4 information on this page available for everybody.

5           One feature that we have circled here and  
6 highlighted is the Google maps. That's a feature  
7 that a lot of people really like. They say where is  
8 my district? What are the district lines?

9           So if you click on that, that will take  
10 you to a page that looks like this. And one of the  
11 nice features about the Google maps is you're able  
12 to scroll in -- zoom in and see where the boundaries  
13 are so you have a better understanding of where your  
14 district is and where your neighboring district is.

15           This is just an example of a shot --  
16 screenshot in Maricopa County showing a couple  
17 congressional districts.

18           As you can see, there is a lot of variety  
19 in terms of it shows the boundaries and geographic  
20 boundaries and some natural boundaries as well.

21           Finally, we want you to stay connected.  
22 We really want to hear what your thoughts are on  
23 this process.

24           You can stay connected through our  
25 website, as I mentioned, you can watch current and



1 past meetings. Also on the website is the  
2 opportunity to draw your own maps. We have an  
3 online mapping program there. And you can get  
4 updates on future meetings.

5 As I mentioned, we're in step four and  
6 the next step -- these are draft maps and changes  
7 are going to be made and you can watch and follow  
8 those changes. So just follow us on our website to  
9 see where future meetings are.

10 And you can also follow us on Twitter and  
11 Facebook.

12 This is the end of the presentation. I  
13 just wanted to say that I will be here afterwards if  
14 anybody has any specific questions or wants to see  
15 any of the features, by all means please just come  
16 up. I'm happy to answer any of your questions.

17 And thank you again for coming out today.  
18 We are very excited and look forward to hearing the  
19 public comment.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, Andrew.  
21 Please.

22 Thank you, Andrew, for the presentation.

23 It is -- what I do when I hold these  
24 meetings is I take the -- I take our yellow sheets  
25 in the order that they were delivered, except if

1 we've got some members of either the legislature or  
2 some of our leadership. And today we have both a  
3 state senate and state representative that have  
4 joined us today.

5 So I would like to take them and put them  
6 at the top of the list at your indulgence.

7 And one of the things that I would also  
8 like to do is that when we give testimony -- it's  
9 sort of funny, when I was talking about that my dad  
10 and I helped in building the Elks Club next door 28  
11 years ago, I asked him when I was a kid -- because  
12 he was a life-long Elk, and he said -- I asked him  
13 what BPOE stood for, and he said it stands for the  
14 best people on earth.

15 So I know I'm next door to some good  
16 surroundings here.

17 So first off, I want to welcome state  
18 senator Paula Aboud.

19 And, senator, before you begin, this is  
20 for everyone that will be speaking at the  
21 microphone, right after Senator Aboud and  
22 Representative Daniel Patters followed by Ronald  
23 Sills, and please spell your name for our court  
24 reporter.

25 PAULA ABOUD: I'm state Senator Paula

1 About, A-b-o-u-d, from District 28 in Tucson and I  
2 want to thank the commissioners, all the  
3 commissioners, all five of the commissioners for the  
4 service they've done for the state of Arizona.

5 And I especially want to thank you folks  
6 for involving yourselves in the political process.

7 I'm here today for a couple of reasons.  
8 I have not attended the redistricting meetings. I'm  
9 term-limited out and I have no intention of running  
10 again, so -- but why I came today was primarily to  
11 talk about Commissioner Colleen Mathis and the  
12 Commission.

13 You know, the one hearing that I attended  
14 in Tucson I heard a representative that had been in  
15 office about two months stand up and say "We've got  
16 to take this process away from the people and give  
17 it back to the legislature."

18 So I came today to explain to you after  
19 my six years in the legislature what my experience  
20 has been there with things like breaking the rules  
21 and breach of ethics and breach of integrity to at  
22 least give you a sense of why this process is with  
23 the people and why I supported it and why I would  
24 put my hands -- if I had the choice between my life  
25 in the hands of the legislature or my life in the

1 hands of the people, I would give it to you, the  
2 people.

3 And I'm not speaking in a derogatory  
4 manner about my colleagues whom I do love, truly,  
5 and get along very well with except when it comes to  
6 the rules. And the rules -- and this is a ruling  
7 party in Arizona that has controlled the legislature  
8 for 48 years.

9 And so the rules have less meaning to  
10 people when there is less competition, which is why  
11 I totally endorse more competitive districts in  
12 Arizona.

13 The more legislative -- more competitive  
14 districts, the more your representation matters, the  
15 more your votes matter. In my district, I think the  
16 Commission listened to what I said and asked -- I  
17 asked for my district to be more competitive because  
18 the majority -- the majority are Democrats and the  
19 Republicans have no voice in my district, literally.

20 I mean, I have listened to everybody. I  
21 talk to everybody, but when it comes to elections,  
22 they don't come out because there are so many more  
23 Democrats and that defeats this interactive process.

24 But the legislature -- you know, I  
25 come -- my family has been in Arizona over a hundred

1 years. I thought everything was by the rules. And  
2 when I get to the legislature and I see that  
3 regularly the rules are suspended because the ruling  
4 party has enough people to suspend the rules to  
5 vote, and then when I ask to have the same rules  
6 suspended for me, it's completely rejected. And,  
7 you know, I'm naive. Okay, I was. And I was  
8 shocked that that's rejected for me because I'm in  
9 the minority party.

10 Well, one year at the end of 2008, the  
11 last day of session, they wanted a bill to be passed  
12 very desperately because it was going to go on the  
13 ballot and help the election for their candidates.

14 Well, I filibustered that bill on the  
15 last day of 2008, the last day of session. And a  
16 filibuster means that no one can take the floor away  
17 from me. Those are the senate rules.

18 And when they realized that they caught  
19 themselves in the rules after 30 minutes -- after  
20 they huddled in the back of the room, they came back  
21 and they talked to the guy that's running the floor  
22 and he shut my microphone off. Oh, yeah, we took  
23 him to an ethics hearing but there are three  
24 Republicans and two Democrats and you know how that  
25 ended.

1 Ladies and gentlemen, when one party  
2 rules so much that they can control the rules and  
3 laws of the senate, they can challenge the  
4 Constitution, they can do whatever they like.

5 And so I say to you, this is the  
6 Commission that needs to determine the boundaries of  
7 our district and not the legislature.

8 Thank you very much.

9 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you everyone.

10 And Representative Patterson, before you  
11 start, as this goes on with the applause -- there  
12 might come a time where I might say that we might  
13 ask to hold the applause because it's very difficult  
14 for the court reporter to be able to comprehensively  
15 hear.

16 So other than that, enthusiasm all you  
17 want.

18 Representative Daniel Patterson.

19 DANIEL PATTERSON: Thank you very much,  
20 Commissioner Stertz. And I'll try to imagine some  
21 applause or something.

22 Good morning, everyone. It's a beautiful  
23 morning in Southern Arizona. We are lucky to live  
24 here. I think our quality of life is very important  
25 to all of us, and that's why a lot of us are here.

1 Politics affect our quality of life.

2 I'm Representative Daniel Patterson from  
3 the Arizona House of Representative. I currently  
4 represent District 29 in Tucson, Tucson's downtown  
5 south side, southeast, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base,  
6 kind of southern half of Tucson.

7 And I want to agree with a lot of what  
8 was said by my colleague and friend, Senator Paula  
9 Aboud.

10 I think the voters were very wise in  
11 Arizona to set up this Commission to remove politics  
12 from the redistricting process. It is one area  
13 where Arizona really is a leader nationally in  
14 trying to make sure that we have fair and  
15 competitive elections. And that's something that  
16 certainly we all should support as Americans and  
17 Arizonans. It's just the best for our democracy.

18 With that said, I also can't step up here  
19 without mentioning my extremely strong concerns  
20 about what happened at the state capitol this week  
21 and what I view as an attack on this Commission and  
22 its independence that is going to play out in the  
23 courts.

24 But I want to thank the Commission for  
25 continuing your work during this process. I think

1 it would be a big mistake to just shut down. There  
2 is nothing that prevents the Commission from  
3 continuing to consider maps, continuing to consider  
4 what are going to be the most fair legislative and  
5 Congressional districts. So I encourage the  
6 Commission to keep doing your work.

7 I support competition, competitive  
8 districts. I think that's the American way. We get  
9 better service generally when there's competition.  
10 That's true for sure in business. It's also true I  
11 think in politics.

12 If politicians don't have to consider you  
13 as a part of their constituent base, then you lose.  
14 And we have, I think, a system where too many  
15 incumbents are sitting there, I think, ignoring  
16 large parts of their constituency because of the way  
17 the districts are set up and all they care about is  
18 primaries that tends to lead to more extreme  
19 politics and it's time to set aside these partisan  
20 differences and really just focus on giving people  
21 the best service they can get at the state capitol.  
22 Competition does that.

23 Specific to LD 2, the draft Legislative  
24 District 2, what -- I want to address some specifics  
25 on that because a big part of my District 29 would



1 be included in District 2, and the draft District 2  
2 also includes not Green Valley proper, but all  
3 around Green Valley and Sahuarita nearby, so it is  
4 certainly relevant to this meeting here in Pima  
5 County.

6           One concern I do have about Legislative  
7 District 2, and I've been hearing this from some  
8 other people is potential problems with packing  
9 Hispanic voters. Right now it's at over 61 percent.  
10 That's very high and it could go as high as  
11 66 percent or two-thirds within a few years.

12           The reason that's a problem -- certainly  
13 the Commission has to deal with the Voting Rights  
14 Act. That's federal law. That's something we have  
15 to follow, and it's important to respect voting  
16 power of Latinos.

17           But packing too many people into a  
18 district reduces competition in other districts, and  
19 I think that could be a problem with LD 2.

20           I know this has been mentioned before. I  
21 would like to see the Commission go for that  
22 54 percent Hispanic voting-age number in LD 2. I  
23 think that keeps LD 2 strong but it also helps  
24 competition in other districts and it does not  
25 disempower to some extent the Hispanic vote.

1           One way to do that, and this continues to  
2 come up, is the funny kind of dog-like that goes  
3 across Cochise County in District 2.

4           I know there's been people wondering, you  
5 know, what is this all about. It kind of looks  
6 gerrymandered and we're not really sure what that's  
7 about.

8           I love Cochise County. I love the people  
9 in Cochise County. A lot of my friends live there,  
10 but that might be one way to address the balance in  
11 that district and maybe add some more voters on the  
12 east side of Tucson or somewhere else.

13           The only other thing, and then I'll wrap  
14 up my comments, is that in LD 2, I really believe  
15 precinct 45 should be added in the downtown area of  
16 Tucson. We've had a lot of issues at the capitol  
17 involving downtown Tucson and Central Tucson.

18           Precinct 45, which is basically the  
19 Armory Park neighborhood and the neighborhoods  
20 immediately south of downtown are very connected to  
21 the other neighborhoods to the south of there.

22           So I think with a community of interest  
23 issue, it would make a lot of sense to make sure  
24 that precinct 45 be included downtown. And that  
25 just takes the boundary up to Broadway and Congress

1 in downtown Tucson, which is basically where it is  
2 now for District 29.

3 Thank you very much.

4 Again, I encourage the Commission to  
5 maintain its independence. Please don't allow  
6 yourself to be bullied and continue your work. It's  
7 important that this get done as soon as possible for  
8 the public interest of all of us here and our entire  
9 state and our country.

10 Thank you very much.

11 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you  
12 Representative Patterson.

13 You reminded me something about federal  
14 law. Federal law requires us to have a translator  
15 at these events, and our translator was not able to  
16 make it this morning.

17 So if there is a need for translation  
18 subsequent to this, we would have the tape and video  
19 able to be translated for that. If there is a need  
20 for that, please see Kristina Gomez and we'll make  
21 special accommodation after the fact. And I do  
22 truly apologize for that.

23 Okay. Next up we're going to go for  
24 Ronald Sills, Jean Vickers, and Betty Johnson.

25 RONALD SILLS: My name is Ronald Sills,

1 S-i-l-l-s. I'm just a regular guy.

2 I live in Green Valley, and I'm here to  
3 speak on behalf of Green Valley. And I don't have  
4 to convince Commissioner Stertz, since he's already  
5 on our side, but I will speak to the invisible  
6 commissioners not here.

7 I've got some concerns with the present  
8 map as it's drawn because I feel it effectively  
9 disenfranchises our community. I don't feel it's a  
10 partisan issue, either. I feel that people of both  
11 parties feel the same way.

12 If you look over there, there's a  
13 mountain range which pretty effectively cuts us off  
14 from the rest of Cochise County. The nearest  
15 community in Cochise County in that district is an  
16 hour's drive away.

17 The representation of this community is  
18 fairly equal between Republicans and Democrats, so  
19 that makes it a nonpartisan issue. We're not going  
20 to tilt the scales one way or the other. But we  
21 won't get effective representation in this district  
22 if a representative comes from a place, you know,  
23 way over on the other side of the mountains.

24 And there's no need for any candidate  
25 from that area to come here to recruit us since

1 we're somewhat evenly divided anyway and it's such a  
2 long, inconvenient drive for them.

3 Our community of interest is not Sierra  
4 Vista, it's not Douglas, it's not Bisbee, it's not  
5 Safford. It is Sahuarita and it is Tucson.

6 We are inextricably connected by our  
7 umbilical cord to I-19 to those communities. We  
8 shop in those communities, we educate in those  
9 communities, we get our health care in those  
10 communities, we get our social services from those  
11 communities, we get our entertainment from those  
12 communities. This corridor needs to be whole.

13 I would like to see us restored, and I  
14 don't just come to throw rocks, I come with  
15 solutions.

16 My sources tell me that there's a good  
17 number of folks down in Douglas who are not happy  
18 with being in the district we are supposed to be in  
19 and no one knows for sure the true population of  
20 Green Valley, but I'm going to guess it's not too  
21 different from the population of Douglas.

22 A simple swap of Douglas and Green Valley  
23 in the legislative districts I think would satisfy  
24 both needs.

25 And I want to add at the end that I share

1 the concern that's already been stated. I'm just  
2 absolutely appalled and just struck with awe at the  
3 audacity of what happened this last week at the  
4 capitol.

5 I can't believe that the will of the  
6 people is being so circumvented by removal of  
7 Commissioner Mathis, and I hope that that gets  
8 restored.

9 Thank you very much.

10 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up we've got  
11 Jean Vickers followed by Betty Johnson follow by  
12 Miriam Lindmeier.

13 JEAN VICKERS: Hi. First I would like to  
14 say that I am very pleased with the federal  
15 congressional map that you've drawn up. I think  
16 that does accurately represent what it should.

17 And I would like to thank you and the  
18 other commissioners for your hard work on this  
19 Commission. Your volunteer dedication, as recent  
20 events have shown, can set you up for a thankless  
21 task.

22 Coming to Arizona from the Northeast  
23 where politics are hashed out in sometimes endless  
24 town meetings, I had hoped that the law the voters  
25 passed to take politics out of redistricting, you

1 would be allowed to draw up truly independent  
2 competitive districts.

3           The abrupt interference of the governor  
4 seems to this voter to be uncalled for political  
5 pressure.

6           I hope you are allowed to continue the  
7 Commission work free of pressure to gerrymander.

8           We moved to Arizona in 2007. We chose to  
9 live in Corona de Tucson, a village of Vail. It's  
10 actually an incorporated village of an  
11 unincorporated town. We're on the south side of  
12 Tucson. It took me 20 minutes to get here today  
13 without too much violation of the speed limit.

14           We chose it because of its close  
15 proximity to my husband's job at Raytheon. I work  
16 from home as a recruiter. We do all of our shopping  
17 in Sahuarita, Tucson, or Green Valley.

18           We have several neighbors who work at  
19 Raytheon in Tucson as well. Other neighbors work in  
20 Tucson or Green Valley.

21           Your map has linked us to communities  
22 east and south of us that we have nothing in common  
23 with. I've been to Sierra Vista once for a job fair  
24 at Fort Huachuca. Wouldn't even know how to get to  
25 Safford. Residents of Vail who live north of I-10

1 likely have many more ties to Tucson as well.

2 Our issues are about commuting and  
3 transportation times to Tucson. We go to Tucson for  
4 theater, concerts, and museums. We travel equally  
5 I-19 north and I-10 west.

6 Our community is near the intersection of  
7 Houghton -- or Houghton as I've been told it's  
8 really pronounced -- and Sahuarita Road.

9 I would like to see Green Valley, Vail,  
10 and Sahuarita in a state legislative district  
11 connected to Tucson as communities of interest.

12 Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
14 much.

15 BETTY JOHNSON: She has my name. I gave  
16 her a letter.

17 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up is Betty  
18 Johnson followed by Miriam Lindmeier and Tom  
19 Lindmeier.

20 BETTY JOHNSON: I would like to thank --  
21 Betty Johnson, B-e-t-t-y, J-o-h-n-s-o-n.

22 I would like to thank all of the  
23 commissioners for your volunteer hours. And I'm  
24 truly sorry that the Independent chair of this  
25 Independent Commission cannot be here today because



1 Governor Brewer and the Republican senate have  
2 chosen to remove her.

3 In taking this politically motivated  
4 action, they have attacked the process voted on by  
5 Arizona voters in 2000.

6 I do support the process through which  
7 you are going and all the volunteer hours that you  
8 have given. The work that you have done so far  
9 within community groups by tribal nations and the  
10 Hispanic Coalition for Good Government should not be  
11 thrown out. Do not start from scratch.

12 I'm going to address the issue of  
13 competitiveness and the legislative district into  
14 which my community, Green Valley, has been placed,  
15 District 1.

16 I will also touch on communities of  
17 interest because I believe the two issues are  
18 closely connected.

19 First I would like to talk a little bit  
20 about the roots and why.

21 Green Valley is a community of 22,000  
22 people. People that live in neighborhoods that are  
23 on small lots. We are like a small unincorporated  
24 town, like a suburb of Tucson with the adjoining  
25 community of Sahuarita.

1           Green Valley's 550 elementary schools  
2 (sic) go to Sahuarita -- go to Sahuarita for high  
3 school.

4           We share an aquifer, we share shopping,  
5 churches with Sahuarita. We are not a rural  
6 community. Tucson is where we derive so much of our  
7 cultural and sporting pleasures and our educational  
8 opportunities.

9           We've been carved out of our adjoining  
10 Santa Cruz Valley communities like Sahuarita out of  
11 the area that surrounds us in Legislative District  
12 now 2 that runs from Nogales south to part of Tucson  
13 and the north.

14           It is as if Highway 19 that runs through  
15 the area is closed or doesn't exist and people would  
16 have to helicopter over it.

17           Green Valley, along with Sahuarita,  
18 belong together in Legislative District map 2.

19           The community into which we have been  
20 placed, district map 1, is not only one but two  
21 mountain ranges away and extends to the border with  
22 New Mexico. It's a very rural area with the  
23 exception of Sahuarita -- or Sierra Vista with  
24 43,000 people, some 70 miles away and many smaller  
25 communities with less than 15,000 people.

1           These communities provide services to the  
2 very many ranches in that vastly rural area.

3           Some of the towns that we might tour for  
4 a day when out of-town-guests visit or pass through,  
5 we only visit for a day as we pass through the rural  
6 areas on route 10 traveling to New Mexico. We have  
7 nothing in common with this proposed legislative map  
8 1.

9           I would like to further discuss why I  
10 believe Green Valley being placed in map 1 is of  
11 concern to me.

12           The lack of competitiveness.

13           Current voter registration in map 1  
14 consists of Republicans, 42.2 percent; Democrats,  
15 26.2 percent; and others, 31.6 percent.

16           What Democrat would choose to run with  
17 those numbers stacked against her or him?

18           I believe it is more likely that a  
19 Republican east of the Santa Rita Mountains or the  
20 Whetstones would become the representative for this  
21 huge area and the Democrats would be basically  
22 disenfranchised.

23           The same would be true for Republicans in  
24 an area where there is an extremely high number of  
25 registered Democrats. It would be likely that a

1 Democrat would be elected and the Republicans would  
2 feel disenfranchised.

3           It makes sense to me to place Bisbee and  
4 Douglas with a similar population in Green Valley in  
5 map 1, the rural area, and to swap that with Green  
6 Valley, a more suburban-like community be placed in  
7 map 2.

8           Also I think it would be very challenging  
9 for a representative who lives in the Whetstones to  
10 meet with her or his constituents in Green Valley to  
11 learn of their concerns. If people feel their  
12 issues are not understood and represented, they come  
13 to believe that their vote does not count -- and  
14 based on voting.

15           This is not what Arizona voters had in  
16 mind in 2000 when they passed the constitutional  
17 amendment that would create, among other things,  
18 fair and competitive districts and place  
19 redistricting in the hands of an Independent  
20 Commission, rather than the current office holders.

21           Competition is good for democracy. It is  
22 very important to have all of our views presented  
23 and listened to in the legislature before passing  
24 laws that affect us.

25           It is not healthy for our state, which is

1 roughly divided politically one-third Independents,  
2 one-third Republicans, and one-third Democrats, to  
3 only have one group, now Republicans, being heard  
4 and passing laws.

5 For decades current office holders,  
6 Republicans in this case, controlled how the voting  
7 districts were created. Change that.

8 Please create the opportunity for a  
9 healthy Arizona democracy, one where legislators  
10 debate issues, listen to each other, negotiate, and  
11 pass laws that make us feel that we are getting  
12 heard.

13 I imagine all of us want to be heard and  
14 not only here but regularly through our  
15 representatives in the state house.

16 Please consider competitiveness a  
17 critical issue for our state as you finalize the  
18 maps.

19 Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
21 much.

22 BETTY JOHNSON: I would just like to add  
23 one comment, and that is I do support the  
24 congressional map as it is.

25 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

1           Just as food for thought, in respect for  
2 everybody else that will be speaking behind, do try  
3 to -- when the buzzer goes off, try to wrap up your  
4 comments as best you can.

5           And if you have written comments, please  
6 take those written comments and give them to one of  
7 staff members because those written comments will  
8 become part of the permanent record.

9           And also, just as a final reminder,  
10 Andrew touched on the blue sheets. The blue sheets  
11 -- if you don't feel comfortable about speaking in  
12 front of the microphone, please put your comments on  
13 those because the testimony that's on the blue  
14 sheets has no less value than the testimony that you  
15 would be giving at the microphone and no less value  
16 than the testimony that will be given by putting  
17 something in writing or submitting it to the  
18 arizonaredistricting.org or in the e-mails or the  
19 letter that you send.

20           So trust me, my wife is trying to figure  
21 out which closet we're going to be putting all of  
22 the binders that we have of testimony and the time  
23 that we've got to go through and to review those.

24           So next up we've got Miriam Lindmeier  
25 followed by Tom Lindmeier and Doris Gerganoff --

1 DORIS GERGANOFF: Gerganoff.

2 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

3 MIRIAM LINDMEIER: Hi. I'm Miriam  
4 Lindmeier, L-i-n-d-m-e-i-e-r.

5 First I want to thank you for your work  
6 and confirm that I support the current  
7 constitutional redistricting process. And also, as  
8 you've heard from most of the others who have spoken  
9 here, express my outrage and shock at the political  
10 involvement into this process.

11 The voters of this state want an  
12 independent Commission who speaks for the people and  
13 tries to come up with an independent as competitive  
14 as possible state where we all have a voice.

15 And I'm hoping that the courts are going  
16 to support a challenge and that we will have the  
17 Independent commissioner back and that you all will  
18 truly represent the best interests of the people of  
19 this state and keep it out of politics.

20 I do support the congressional map. I  
21 probably would like to see some changes, but I  
22 understand how difficult the job is, and I think  
23 that you've done well with the congressional map.

24 Substantively, I'm here to urge that you  
25 reconsider the legislative draft map that separates

1 Green Valley and Sahuarita.

2 I live in Quail Creek. I have a Green  
3 Valley address. The post office in Green Valley  
4 serves me. My taxes for school supports the  
5 Continental school district, which is also supported  
6 by Green Valley, but I pay local taxes to Sahuarita.

7 I vote in Sahuarita. I get my permits  
8 and pay fees in Sahuarita, and the Sahuarita local  
9 government is the one that sets the rules for me.

10 So I consider myself quite a mix of both  
11 Green Valley and Sahuarita in Quail Creek.

12 I buy groceries at Fry's in Sahuarita but  
13 I also go to Safeway in Green Valley.

14 My husband likes the church in Green  
15 Valley that we go to, I like to the one in  
16 Sahuarita. We go to mine, too.

17 We consider ourselves mixed. I never  
18 know whether I'm in Green Valley or Sahuarita. The  
19 two combine for me.

20 So I'm really urging the community of  
21 interest for these two communities. I'm a member of  
22 both of them, as far as I'm concerned.

23 Next I would like to also urge that you  
24 move Green Valley into LD 2 because we are part of  
25 the I-19 corridor. Sahuarita is in that. I'm happy



1 with my selection there, but I think Green Valley  
2 ought to be in there as well.

3 I work part time in Tucson. I am someone  
4 who tutors in the Tucson public school system and I  
5 also have done some work for the State Vocational  
6 Rehab in Tucson, and I travel to Tucson three times  
7 a week for my part-time tutoring. We have general  
8 doctors here in the local area but our specialists  
9 are in Tucson and we enjoy the cultural environment  
10 that Tucson has.

11 We love where we live here but I'm not  
12 sure we would be here if we weren't so close to  
13 Tucson. It to me is one big community. And I-19  
14 has served as a very easy commute route for us to  
15 enjoy the benefits of a smaller community but also  
16 the culture of a larger community.

17 I feel like I have nothing in common with  
18 places like Douglas; however, that has been put in  
19 LD 2, and if we're going to swap Green Valley in, it  
20 seems like maybe looking at that area to swap out  
21 might be a smart thing.

22 Thank you for your work. As a citizen of  
23 this state, I'm sorry that you have had to work  
24 under the difficult situation you've had to work  
25 under with some of the political pressure that's

1 been exhibited here.

2 I beg you to hang tough and do your job.

3 We the people of the state are depending  
4 on you to be independent and look out for us.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

7 Next up is Tom Lindmeier followed by  
8 Doris and Irene McMillan.

9 TOM LINDMEIER: It's Tom Lindmeier,  
10 L-i-n-d-m-e-i-e-r.

11 I'm the other half of the traveling show  
12 here that you just heard.

13 It kind of -- you had Mr. Sills talk up  
14 here about that there could possibly be a trade  
15 between Green Valley and Douglas.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Talk into the mic.

17 TOM LINDMEIER: That there should be an  
18 inclusion of Green Valley within Legislative  
19 District 2 and have -- and if you needed to have an  
20 equalization of population, that perhaps Douglas  
21 should be in Legislative District 1.

22 And I want to kind of echo that for one  
23 reason. I think that the economic trade that comes  
24 through Nogales and actually proceeds up through  
25 Tucson is actually that of a straight north/south

1 shot. There isn't much of an area that goes east of  
2 Nogales that's actually included within that trade.

3 I think the people that actually are in  
4 Green Valley have a lot more commonality between  
5 them and Sahuarita than they do of communities and  
6 places like Sierra Vista, Benson, and Douglas.

7 Douglas really is a separate port of  
8 entry from Mexico, and I think the trade that comes  
9 through that actually goes north of there.

10 You know, I teach in Tucson and I do some  
11 work in Nogales. I think pretty much that corridor  
12 is really kind of the way in which economic trade  
13 proceeds from Mexico up through Tucson, not only for  
14 me but I think for a lot of other people.

15 So I would hope that you would include  
16 Green Valley in Legislative District 2, and if need  
17 be, to equalize, that you would take populations  
18 from Douglas to equalize that out.

19 Thank you for your time.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

21 Next up we've got Doris Gerganoff  
22 followed by Irene McMillan and Joanne Amoroso.

23 DORIS GERGANOFF: G-e-r-g-a-n-o-f-f.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak into the  
25 microphone.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We want to hear,  
2 too.

3 DORIS GERGANOFF: I appreciate the  
4 difficult task that this Commission is faced with  
5 and I would like to thank the Commission --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Get closer.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Try to speak into  
8 the microphone.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Take one step  
10 forward.

11 DORIS GERGANOFF: I wanted to thank the  
12 Commission for all of their hard work trying to come  
13 up with an equitable redistricting plan for both  
14 congressional and legislative districts.

15 I'm most concerned with the legislative  
16 district map at present.

17 Green Valley shares with Sahuarita  
18 chamber of commerce many concerns about water,  
19 mining, air pollution safety, schools, just to  
20 mention a few things and we both use I-19 to go to  
21 Tucson and enjoy cultural events, shopping, and  
22 meetings.

23 The common concerns can best be addressed  
24 by elected officials who represent our combined  
25 communities.

1           We are geographically connected and are  
2 contiguous.

3           The communities east of us, which we  
4 would now be grouped in the new District 1, are more  
5 rural and have different concerns and the people  
6 elected from that district would correctly address  
7 the concerns of that majority leaving us without  
8 meaningful representation.

9           So I'm just asking you to please keep us  
10 in District 2.

11           Thank you.

12           COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
13 much.

14           Next up is Irene McMillan followed by  
15 Joanne Amoroso and Charles Bowker.

16           IRENE MCMILLAN: Irene McMillan,  
17 I-r-e-n-e, M-c-m-i-l-l-a-n.

18           I am a Scottish-American. I am the  
19 ultimate voting minority. And coming to Arizona I  
20 find so much animosity between the political  
21 parties.

22           And we have recently in Green Valley got  
23 live broadcast from the Med. And I want you to know  
24 that I gave that up to come here, and I would like  
25 to see competitiveness for my Republican friends and

1 my Democratic friends.

2 Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
4 much.

5 Next up is Joanne Amoroso followed by  
6 Charles Bowker and Danielle Rushford.

7 JOANNE AMOROSO: Joanne Amoroso,  
8 A-m-o-r-o-s-o.

9 Chairman Stertz and commissioners, I wish  
10 to speak tonight -- today about the -- my feelings  
11 after attending the meeting on October 3rd in Tucson  
12 and also some concerns that I have regarding the  
13 current legislative redistricting map.

14 The meeting -- I attended the meeting in  
15 Tucson and I was impressed. I came away believing  
16 the committee members were diligent, well-informed,  
17 fair in their deliberations, concerned, forthright,  
18 and earnestly working to achieve district lines in  
19 accord to the guidelines.

20 Before the meeting began, a member of the  
21 mapping committee announced that a misalignment of  
22 some statistic was noted. It would have to be  
23 corrected before the meeting could begin.

24 I interpreted that as a sign of  
25 diligence, honesty, and a commitment to complete the

1 task at hand correctly. It also took a good deal of  
2 humility and courage I believe to admit a mistake.

3 As the meeting progressed, I was  
4 impressed with the meticulous detail of information  
5 given in the report, the conscientiousness and  
6 consensus required among the members to come to an  
7 agreement in forming the districts and according to  
8 the guidelines and the well-thought-out reasoning  
9 when the lines needed adjustment to meet community,  
10 geographical, population, and traffic patterns.

11 Several times committee members spoke for  
12 fairness regarding the express request of specific  
13 communities such as age-restricted communities,  
14 American Indian communities, or minority  
15 neighborhood.

16 I was shocked to hear of Governor  
17 Brewer's complaints and as yet have not heard  
18 specifically what her accusations are. I'm sorry  
19 your work has been disrupted and maligned.

20 I have concerns that the current  
21 legislative district has scooped Green Valley out of  
22 its long-established corridor north to south along  
23 I-19.

24 I feel this is important -- important for  
25 us to be aligned with our neighbors who share the

1 waning aquifer west of Santa Cruz Mountains and the  
2 intense illegal cross-border activities in the same  
3 area.

4 I think both of these issues are pending  
5 and we need to have unified representation in the  
6 legislature in the future to deal with these.

7 Often when I am being introduced and we  
8 get to exchanging addresses, the question I hear is,  
9 is that in Green Valley or Sahuarita? It's true.  
10 We live in each other's neighborhoods.

11 Daily we learn of community concerns that  
12 we share, our churches, medical and dental offices,  
13 stores, service providers, fire department, use of  
14 the landfill, parks, community agencies, clinics,  
15 and library, home extension, and office and garden,  
16 performing arts center.

17 As an incorporated community and a  
18 senior-citizen community, we rely and are grateful  
19 for our Sahuarita's service providers.

20 Now, services not available in Green  
21 Valley or to attend social functions or use the  
22 airport, we go to Tucson at least twice a week.  
23 This is our community of interest.

24 Points east are separated geographically  
25 and culturally from Green Valley by mountain ranges,



1 Box Canyon, and miles of agricultural land and  
2 ranch-oriented communities. They are, of course,  
3 destinations for me are a taste of the west, which  
4 we travel to with our visits, not daily interactions  
5 that we share now with Sahuarita and Tucson.

6 Thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
8 much.

9 Next up Charles Bowker, Danielle Rushford  
10 and Glenn Lundell.

11 CHALRES BOWKER: My name is Charles  
12 Bowker, last name B-o-w-k-e-r, and I appreciate the  
13 opportunity to put my two cents worth in.

14 I guess I empathize with the difficulty  
15 of the Commission and its work redistricting the map  
16 of Arizona.

17 I had a little bit of experience with  
18 that in working in a community reorganizing a map  
19 just for community improvement. And so I  
20 certainly --

21 I guess one of the questions I have is  
22 how is the Commission functioning now? Is there a  
23 interim chairperson or is the Independent chairwoman  
24 still functioning?

25 I guess I just am curious how you're

1 continuing to function. And I appreciate you being  
2 here attempting to continue your work.

3 I just wanted to reiterate briefly what's  
4 been said before and that is the -- probably the  
5 unprecedented action of the governor and the  
6 leadership of the legislature recently seems to me  
7 quite contrary to the intent of Proposition 106 and  
8 disrespectful of the voters of Arizona.

9 And I feel that if there is any charge of  
10 misconduct being directed, it should be directed at  
11 the meddlers and not the hard-working Commission.

12 Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

14 You know, somebody once asked me a  
15 question and they said "I'll give you a penny for  
16 thoughts."

17 So I threw my two cents in. Then they  
18 asked me what happened to the other penny.

19 Sorry about that.

20 Next up is Danielle Rushford followed by  
21 Glenn Lundell, and Sandra Rooney.

22 DANIELLE RUSHFORD: Good morning.  
23 Danielle Rushford, D-a-n-i-e-l-l-e, Rushford,  
24 R-u-s-h-f-o-r-d.

25 First I want to thank the Commission for

1 their continued hard work and dedication to this  
2 process. Any person who volunteers for this job is  
3 definitely a hero in my book. This has been a tough  
4 process.

5 I want it stated that I am very upset  
6 with Governor Brewer and her partisan tactics in  
7 attacking the Independent Commission.

8 I did participate in the Nogales meeting.  
9 I testified, and what Governor Brewer did by  
10 removing Colleen Mathis was show me that my opinion  
11 didn't matter.

12 I live in Sahuarita but I am married and  
13 I have three kids and two of my kids attend school  
14 in Sahuarita. I have one child that attends school  
15 in Green Valley. I work in Green Valley. My  
16 husband works in Sahuarita. We're very interlaced,  
17 these two communities.

18 My mailing address is Green Valley but I  
19 actually live in Sahuarita, so I have to use the  
20 Green Valley post office.

21 I grocery shop at Safeway. There's one  
22 in Sahuarita; there's one in Green Valley. I go  
23 throughout both communities all day long. I'm  
24 basically circling around Sahuarita and Green Valley  
25 all day long with kids touting (sic) them to their

1 after-school things, their preschools, their  
2 baseball games, everything. These communities are  
3 very interlaced together.

4 We also share an aquifer and we also  
5 share the I-19 corridor with Tucson. So I am  
6 requesting that Green Valley move into my  
7 Legislative District 2.

8 I want to say that the congressional  
9 districts, I'm fine with. I'm fine with those. I  
10 would tweak them a little bit, but I'm okay with  
11 those. So I would like those to remain the same.

12 And just -- we are a community of  
13 interest. We are one community with many same  
14 interests.

15 With the reasons stated above, I think  
16 it's very important that these communities are able  
17 to vote united for one representative who represents  
18 all of us as a whole. The policies that it would  
19 put into place affect us together as one community.

20 Additionally, I strongly believe in  
21 competitive districts. All candidates from all  
22 different parties should have the opportunity to run  
23 a competitive campaign in their district.

24 This would encourage all interested  
25 parties to run for office. And therefore the

1 opportunity for each American citizen to be  
2 represented in their community.

3 And again, I want to thank all of the  
4 commissioners, Commissioner Stertz, and the ones  
5 that are not here, for your hours that you have  
6 dedicated to this Commission.

7 Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
9 much.

10 Next up is Glenn Lundell, Sandra Rooney,  
11 and Ann Sprague.

12 And by the way, again as a reminder, if  
13 you do have written comments that you would like to  
14 put into the record as well above and beyond your  
15 testimony, make sure that you leave it with any of  
16 the staff.

17 Mr. Lundell.

18 GLENN LUNDELL: Thank you,  
19 Mr. Commissioner.

20 My name is Glenn Lundell. That's  
21 L-u-n-d-e-l-l. Glenn is with two Ns.

22 I live near Green Valley with my wife.  
23 Been here for over 15 years.

24 I'll be commenting today on behalf of  
25 myself and also I am an affiliate of Citizens for

1 Common Sense Redistricting, and I have listened to  
2 some of the testimony before those meetings.

3 One point I believe is important, I don't  
4 think the Commission has applied on a consistent  
5 basis the criteria for the redistricting process,  
6 especially with regard to communities of interest.

7 I was at meetings where I heard  
8 commissioners specifically addressing communities of  
9 interest when they were talking about the Phoenix  
10 area and Maricopa County and with regard to the  
11 river area along the western side of the state.

12 But in considering Southern Arizona, more  
13 specifically Cochise and Santa Cruz counties, the  
14 current draft map appears to disregard that factor  
15 without any real rationale given.

16 For example, it's been a much concrete  
17 presentation, even today, regarding Sahuarita/Green  
18 Valley/Green Valley areas as being a community of  
19 interest, which I firmly believe.

20 After all, as we've said, there's  
21 shopping, education, cultural, social services,  
22 business, the joint chambers of commerce, law  
23 enforcement, fire, safety, even media. The radio  
24 station and the newspapers, all this ties the  
25 communities together very, very nicely.

1           I have one difference of opinion from  
2 some of the things I have heard said today regarding  
3 Tucson and Nogales because I didn't move here  
4 because of Tucson. I looked for a community that to  
5 me was like Green Valley with the recreation  
6 facilities that are here that you are sitting in the  
7 midst of one of -- which is the social businesses  
8 today.

9           I also have been a great supporter of the  
10 Sahuarita Junior ROTC people, for example, and the  
11 others like that. I've tried to involve myself in  
12 both communities.

13           One thing I like about it is my gas bill  
14 is way down for driving my car because I don't go to  
15 Tucson and Nogales very often, and a lot of the  
16 people here in Green Valley don't either.

17           I recognize those who work in the area  
18 and things like that, but there's a lot of us that  
19 don't and we sort of like the community-type thing  
20 we're in.

21           I think that that -- the community of  
22 interest -- in some ways and I'm not sure how now it  
23 relates -- applies to the whole area of Vail, Corona  
24 de Tucson and the Tanque Verde and so forth because  
25 to me, my community of interest lies with what I'll

1 call the rural or far-out suburban thing as opposed  
2 to within the communities themselves.

3 So I certainly believe we belong in LD 1  
4 because it more fits that type of interest as far as  
5 I'm concerned.

6 So in your final deliberations, I hope  
7 that you are looking at the legislative districts  
8 and congressional maps and all, that you will give  
9 continued interest in community of interest because  
10 I think it's, well, an important factor that's  
11 involved.

12 Thank you very much.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you,  
14 Mr. Lundell.

15 Next up we've got Sandra Rooney followed  
16 by Ann Sprague and Martin --

17 MARTIN KAHN: Kahn.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

19 SANDRA ROONEY: My name is Sandra Rooney,  
20 R-o-o-n-e-y, like Andy who died overnight but no  
21 relation.

22 First, I want to say that I am  
23 disappointed and dismayed at the action of Governor  
24 Brewer and the Arizona senate in removing Chairman  
25 Colleen Mathis from the Commission.



1           Second, I want to sincerely thank all of  
2 the members of the Commission for what I'm sure has  
3 been and continues to be a very demanding and  
4 seemingly thankless task of determining how Arizona  
5 best does the necessary redistricting process.

6           I'm sure trying to meet all of the  
7 criteria seems an impossible task.

8           As you review the work you've done to  
9 date, I want to underscore the importance of  
10 competitive districts to promoting the greatest  
11 constituent participation in the political process.

12           But as you know, that alone is not  
13 enough. For communities to work together to  
14 identify how their particular needs are best met,  
15 geographical proximity is vital as is community of  
16 interest.

17           I want to speak to both of these.

18           Speaking as a resident of Green Valley, I  
19 hope the Commission will take another look at the  
20 district where we are placed. I speak specifically  
21 to the importance of keeping Green Valley and  
22 Sahuarita together. The two communities border one  
23 another, our school districts overlap as do fire  
24 districts and water services.

25           We have a joint chamber of commerce, we

1 in Green Valley shop in Sahuarita and Tucson. We  
2 find our entertainment opportunities in Tucson. Our  
3 library is part of the Pima County library system.  
4 Many of us go regularly to Tucson for medical care.

5 Our community of interest is clearly the  
6 I-19 corridor.

7 Although Green Valley is unincorporated,  
8 it is in no way rural. And to put us in a rural  
9 district disenfranchises many of our interests.

10 We are separated from Sierra Vista by a  
11 mountain range and perhaps the only thing we have in  
12 common is that a few of us may hike in the same  
13 mountains.

14 Without knowing the Commission's reason  
15 for separating us from our community of interest, a  
16 look at the current draft of the redistricting map  
17 would appear to be a mistake. Many of us feel it  
18 is.

19 Please reconsider and keep Sahuarita and  
20 Green Valley together and in District 2. To not do  
21 so would severely diminish our political voice and  
22 discourage active participation in the political  
23 process.

24 Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very

1 much.

2           We've got next up is Ann Sprague,  
3 followed by Martin Kahn and Susan Bickel.

4           Is Ann here?

5           No.

6           Okay. We're going to go to Martin Kahn  
7 followed by Susan Bickel and Robert Soto.

8           MARTIN KAHN: My name is Martin Kahn,  
9 K-a-h-n.

10           Try, if you can, to imagine a congress  
11 and a state legislature that actually cares about  
12 everybody, that wants to get something done, that  
13 had 435 Gabby Giffords in congress.

14           And that's really the reason why I ask  
15 you please to use competitiveness as one of the most  
16 important criteria.

17           Our problem as a country today is not  
18 that we can't get anything done, we won't get  
19 anything done, and we won't because of the  
20 hyper-partisanship of the legislature and congress.

21           And the reason for that is that there  
22 aren't enough competitive districts. If there are  
23 competitive districts, then they have to listen to  
24 all of us. If there aren't, then the Republican  
25 legislator doesn't care about the Democrats and vice

1 versa.

2           And so what happens is the most extreme,  
3 the most active, go out to the primaries and  
4 determine who we get as legislators and congress  
5 people. And we're in a very sad state because of  
6 that.

7           So I know that there are two Democratic  
8 commissioners and two Republican commissioners and  
9 there used to be and hopefully will be one  
10 Independent commissioner.

11           Please, when you're doing this for the  
12 final thing, don't think of yourself as Democrats.  
13 Don't think of yourself as Republicans. Think of  
14 yourself as Arizonans and Americans.

15           And let's not let this Commission bow to  
16 political pressure. Let's try to remember that if  
17 we have competitive districts all across Arizona,  
18 all across this country, we will move forward  
19 together.

20           We can't go on the way we're going on.  
21 This is just lunacy. And when we see a legislature  
22 that spends as much time picking a state gun as  
23 trying to get jobs or do the other things that need  
24 to be done, we see where we are now.

25           And the only way that's going to change

1 is by changing the election process by getting more  
2 people who are moderates who listen to everybody.

3 Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up is Susan  
5 Bickel followed by Robert Soto and Donald Kret.

6 SUSAN BICKEL: Good morning.

7 My name is Susan Bickel.

8 Is this better?

9 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Perfect.

10 SUSAN BICKEL: Good morning.

11 My name is Susan Bickel. That is B, as  
12 in boy, i-c-k-e-l.

13 I am a resident of Douglas and I want to  
14 tell you all that I love Green Valley but I don't  
15 want to have a representative from Green Valley.

16 Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the  
17 meeting in Sierra Vista a couple of weeks ago, so I  
18 appreciate the opportunity of you folks coming here  
19 and allowing me to speak.

20 Commissioner Stertz, this is directed to  
21 you because I watched the live stream of that  
22 particular meeting and at the very end, you  
23 commented on the fact that you had been to Douglas  
24 many times and that your brother worked for the  
25 newspaper there and that he actually broke the story

1 of the Hannigan brother.

2 Well, as a fourth-generation Arizonan  
3 from Cochise County and Douglas, I know that story  
4 very well, and it was a very sad story. I don't  
5 know if any of you folks know about that story.

6 Unfortunately, the Hannigan brothers made  
7 some very poor choices and it landed them in a lot  
8 of legal trouble.

9 The Hannigans had choices to make that  
10 day. They are citizens of this country and they had  
11 the right to choose their courses of action. But  
12 while their allegations dismayed and appalled me,  
13 their freedom to choose was guaranteed by our  
14 democracy.

15 In 2000, the voters in Arizona made a  
16 choice. They overwhelmingly decided to take  
17 redistricting out of the hands of the legislature.

18 As a result of this vote, you folks, the  
19 commissioners, now have the opportunity to give back  
20 to your state as volunteers serving on this  
21 Commission.

22 I applaud you for your dedication and for  
23 your generosity in this overwhelmingly difficult  
24 task.

25 Unfortunately, there are some in this

1 state who do not value your efforts. I am speaking  
2 about our Governor Jan Brewer.

3 Governor Brewer had several choices to  
4 make last week. She chose to leave Arizona to  
5 promote herself and her book. Apparently she left  
6 the dirty work to her underlings and the majority  
7 party, those in control, who somehow seemed content  
8 to follow rather than lead.

9 She also had the choice to say no to a  
10 number of state and undoubtedly federal legislators  
11 who continued to pressure her to disrupt and  
12 disenfranchise a voter-mandated, independent  
13 Commission for her own party's benefit.

14 Dismaying and appalling, she in effect  
15 negated all of your efforts and the efforts of those  
16 of us who chose to participate in this process in  
17 the past few months.

18 Based on what I have read and heard on  
19 national media, her poor choice dismayed and  
20 appalled citizens of this state and others in this  
21 country who continue to watch the trauma that she  
22 has perpetuated over the past year.

23 Governor Brewer has taken it upon herself  
24 to be the judge, jury, and executioner.

25 This is a choice typical of a Banana

1 Republic. It is surely not the choice of moral  
2 people who value life, liberty, and the pursuit of  
3 happiness.

4 We all have choices. How we make these  
5 choices depends upon the values we hold dear.

6 I believe that all Arizonans have the  
7 right to fair and balanced districts ensuring that  
8 all of our votes matter.

9 I believe that the heavy-handed politics  
10 of the governor is a blatant attempt to deny voters  
11 in this state the opportunity to make fair,  
12 balanced, and competitive choices.

13 I wish to address one other issue today,  
14 and some of you will know what I'm talking about. I  
15 know Commissioner Stertz, you will know.

16 I have heard that some people who heard a  
17 young lady speak in Sierra Vista two weeks ago --  
18 she was 13 -- think that someone must have written  
19 her speech for her. This is a false assumption and  
20 it is an insult to her integrity and her  
21 intelligence.

22 I know this young lady, and I know her  
23 mother. Katelyn, who is 13, asked if it would be  
24 proper for her to speak at the hearing. She wrote  
25 her own speech. Her mother is a teacher and she



1 reviewed it to make sure that it was appropriate.

2 In a speech delivered with dignity and  
3 respect for the Commission and the audience, she  
4 told everyone how she felt about the process and how  
5 the maps would affect her when she comes of voting  
6 age.

7 Katelyn is a future of Arizona. She  
8 chose to speak her mind with words and thoughts that  
9 reflect her desire for a future where all Arizonans  
10 will be engaged in the governance of the state.

11 I applaud her effort and her commitment  
12 to our state.

13 Now, I will admit that I'm not a hundred  
14 percent pleased with the maps that the Commission  
15 has drawn. I firmly believe Douglas does not need  
16 to be mixed up with Green Valley although, like I  
17 said, I like to come here, but I don't come very  
18 often. It took me three hours to drive here this  
19 morning.

20 But I would live with those maps if I  
21 thought that they represented the will of all of the  
22 voters of Arizona and not to the dictates of those  
23 who want to muzzle and disenfranchise those who  
24 disagree with them.

25 Thank you for coming to Green Valley, and

1 thank you for letting me come to Green Valley.

2 Thank you all for your service to our  
3 state.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

5 And, Ms. Bickel, I have to tell you that  
6 the young lady that spoke was truly inspirational.  
7 And if you get the opportunity to live-stream the  
8 Sierra Vista and you can work your way to  
9 fast-forward because there was a lot of boring  
10 speeches and Andrew talking again.

11 But this young lady was really a joy to  
12 listen to.

13 Next up is Robert Soto followed by Donald  
14 Kret and William Sobeck.

15 Michelle, how are you doing?

16 THE COURT REPORTER: Okay.

17 ROBERT SOTO: Hello. My name is Robert  
18 V. Soto, like Victor. Use the middle initial V, to  
19 distinguish me, you might say.

20 What I would like to say is mostly my  
21 utter disgust, especially at the national political  
22 scene. And the reason I tie it with what's being  
23 discussed here as more local is because ultimately  
24 people that represent us in, you know, the big place  
25 where they make money come from the areas that are

1 local.

2           And since they print the money, it's very  
3 discouraging, disgusting, utterly disgusting to see  
4 all of these Republican powerful people set us up  
5 for failure.

6           I'll give you a personal story about my  
7 failure.

8           The reason I do not speak too much and  
9 too well publicly is that when I took a test for my  
10 education at the U of A, even though I scored very  
11 high and very well in a particular subject,  
12 production management, the supposed counselor who  
13 was supposed to represent me I think as a citizen of  
14 this country and this state, mentioned to me that he  
15 would totally discourage me from following that  
16 curriculum, which would have led me into something,  
17 you know, which I had tested well and, you know, I  
18 showed a lot of interest in.

19           And he told me that because of my race --  
20 here comes the race again -- I would not do well  
21 because people would not respect me.

22           I don't speak very well publicly because  
23 I worked 60 hours a week on the average my entire  
24 life -- my entire life -- working life. My 58  
25 years. And I also went to night school. I probably

1 have the equivalent of two Ph.D.s, mostly in the  
2 trades.

3 In fact, talking about the trades, I know  
4 a particular man who was a teacher. His name was  
5 Andy Ochoa. He has a Ph.D. -- an actual Ph.D. in  
6 welding. Okay?

7 And the reason I bring this up is that we  
8 need workers, workers. The only way we can have  
9 workers is if we have a strong union movement.

10 I was a union man. Okay? That's why I  
11 worked so much, because I wanted to have a good  
12 retirement. And I have a pretty decent retirement.

13 But what it amounts to is we're always  
14 fighting this system that globalizes everything.  
15 That's why we have so much problem with the border.  
16 People are starving and we have so much of our  
17 problem with people asking for money.

18 I get money. I pull out my wallet and I  
19 give money as much as I can, but it's utterly  
20 disgusting to put up with the type of government  
21 that we have in D.C. that shut down everything  
22 because they don't want to print money, right?  
23 Because they have all of their investments overseas.  
24 It gripes the hell out of me. Okay? Is that clear?  
25 Okay.

1 I also want to mention one particular  
2 item that will call attention to what I'm talking  
3 about.

4 There was a retired U.S. senator from  
5 Texas that called the American people a bunch of  
6 whiners when he instituted -- after the results,  
7 okay? I'm a person that pays very close attention  
8 to results. I was a maintenance mechanic. Okay?

9 So the results that he was bragging about  
10 was the fact that gasoline had gone up to almost \$5  
11 a gallon and people were parking their rigs. That  
12 was the start of the depression, I call it. Okay?

13 The reason it grabs me so much is that  
14 people are given so much because of their lobbyists  
15 and their funneling money and playing the casinos.

16 Let these tribes play the casinos. They  
17 have rules. Okay? These jerks, they don't have  
18 rules. They break them. You can follow all of the  
19 Republican governorships and Republican  
20 legislator-type mentality and you can see the rules  
21 that they follow.

22 Thank you very much.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

24 Next up we've got Donald Kret followed by  
25 William Sobeck and Laurie Jurs.

1 DONALD KRET: Good morning.

2 I'm Donald Kret. I live in Sahuarita.  
3 I've lived down here -- I moved from Wisconsin in  
4 19 -- or 1996, and I appreciate the willingness of  
5 the people on this Commission to serve at no  
6 compensation in spite of all of the bad publicity  
7 they may get from one person or another, the fact  
8 that some of us may bring up some things that the  
9 will disagree with what they have done or what they  
10 may do, but I think it is good that -- first, that  
11 the people of Arizona established this Commission,  
12 and secondly, that those people who serve are  
13 willing to serve because this is a thankless job at  
14 best.

15 I also have a background in  
16 redistricting. I go back to the late 1950s when I  
17 supported then our Attorney General John Reynolds  
18 who filed a lawsuit against the way state  
19 legislative districts were done. And it was  
20 consolidated with a bunch of other lawsuits in front  
21 of the U.S. Supreme Court which led to the decision  
22 of one person, one vote. I go back that far.

23 I also was a member of my city council  
24 back in Wisconsin after the 1990 census when we did  
25 the redistricting and a member of my county board

1 back in Wisconsin after 2000 when we did the  
2 redistricting.

3 And I know some of the bad issues and  
4 tough things to do because we were the ones who were  
5 in power. I love it that it's done outside of that  
6 here in the state of Arizona, that the people have a  
7 chance to have the input.

8 And part of my input is that it's hard to  
9 sometimes do it rightly. And the thing I complain  
10 about is I've never been to Douglas, I've never been  
11 to Bisbee, and I don't think I miss either one. I  
12 live in Sahuarita. I go to Green Valley all the  
13 time. In fact, here I am today.

14 Also I want to -- want you folks on the  
15 Commission to look at one thing. Go to the Arizona  
16 Department of Transportation. They have plans in  
17 the next ten years to widen I-19 starting at I-10 to  
18 give lanes each way, then four, and then three to  
19 south of Green Valley. If there aren't going to be  
20 traffic there, the people aren't going that  
21 direction, it's not part of our community of  
22 interest, they wouldn't do it. They wouldn't do it.

23 So I'm saying I have no community of  
24 interest. My community of interest is  
25 Sahuarita/Green Valley area. And that place between

1 the Santa Rita Mountains -- and the Santa Rita  
2 Mountains where we have the water tables, where we  
3 have the problems with drugs and illegals crossing  
4 the border, the open-pit minings, we've got them on  
5 one side, they are on their way coming to the other  
6 side of the valley, the whole Santa Cruz River  
7 Valley is part of a community of interest for that  
8 and all kinds of interests. And I would want us all  
9 to be in one legislative district because we do have  
10 a community of interest.

11 And I can't say it strong enough, take  
12 that under consideration when you make your final  
13 consideration.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

16 And as a fellow cheeser -- when my wife  
17 married me -- I'm from Wisconsin -- she said she  
18 didn't realize that she was marrying into a cult.

19 Next up is William Sobeck followed by  
20 Laurie Jurs and Fletcher Strickler.

21 LAURIE JURs: Shall I go?

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Yes. William is  
23 not here. So Lauri.

24 LAURIE JURs: Good morning.

25 My name is Laurie Jurs. That's J-u-r-s.



1 I've lived and worked in this community since 1984,  
2 which I think takes it to 27 years.

3 Thank you very much for bringing the  
4 Commission public meeting to Green Valley and for  
5 allowing me the opportunity to speak.

6 I lived here in 2000 and voted  
7 enthusiastically for Prop 106. I did not realize at  
8 the time I would have to fight for it. But I'm  
9 willing and it sounds like many people in this  
10 community are willing to fight for it as well.

11 I'm wearing my Andy Nickel's bolo tie, if  
12 any of you remember Dr. Andy Nickels, the first man  
13 who ever taught me how important redistricting was.

14 And it sounded boring and dreadful at the  
15 time. Now I realize what he was talking about in  
16 the value of independence in doing that.

17 You the Commission are balancing  
18 potentially a balanceable and competing interest in  
19 criteria. I see that, and I salute you for what you  
20 have done.

21 And I'm willing to live with your  
22 results, as the lady from Douglas so eloquently  
23 said.

24 I also support the voting rights'  
25 safeguards and the priority given to the voting

1 rights' aspect.

2 I'm willing to take a long view and a  
3 broad view to your product, and I hope that others  
4 can, too.

5 The current congressional districts and  
6 legislative districts are pretty goofy, if you think  
7 about it. And we've somehow lived with them. The  
8 only good thing about them now is that's the way  
9 we've always done them.

10 Well, things have changed a lot in the  
11 last ten years, not just the population but the  
12 makeup of the population and the complexity and the  
13 urgency of dealing with the problems we have.

14 Our state has changed a lot in the last  
15 ten years. It will change a lot in the next ten  
16 years and it makes a lot of sense that our districts  
17 need to change as well.

18 This all said, my local perspective is  
19 the same as many others, that Green Valley and  
20 Sahuarita are pretty much joined at the hip.

21 They should be together, in my opinion,  
22 in Legislative District 2. The I-19 corridor is  
23 where I have lived and worked my whole career.  
24 Nogales to Tucson, our governance, we are  
25 incorporated in Green Valley. I've lived through

1 three or more of the incorporation-corporation  
2 fights. That makes us tied even more to Tucson and  
3 governance issues.

4 Certainly economic linkages are strong,  
5 the trucks, the traffic. In fact, Sahuarita was  
6 incorporated in relationship to Green Valley. They  
7 are deeply umbilically related in terms of their  
8 organization and governance.

9 In closing, thank goodness for  
10 Proposition 106. Thank goodness for you.

11 Yes, I wish there were much more  
12 competitive districts. Competition makes the soup  
13 better and I believe it makes democracy better.

14 We really should have one-third,  
15 one-third, one-third, Democrat, Republican,  
16 Independent. All of these districts should be  
17 one-third, one-third, one-third. Okay. That is a  
18 gold standard that we cannot possibly reach but your  
19 draft maps have at least reached for that goal.

20 I hope you can find ways to make LD 1 and  
21 LD 2 both more competitive.

22 Godspeed to you and the commissioners. I  
23 hope that the courts will quickly overturn the  
24 graven un-Democratic actions of the governor and the  
25 senate and the proposal from both chambers that I

1 might mention to start over from scratch. Does that  
2 make you want to slit your throat or not?

3 I also want to read into the record that  
4 this includes the vote taken by our very own Senator  
5 Frank Antenori.

6 So thank you for your work and Godspeed.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
8 much.

9 Next up we've got Fletcher Strickler  
10 followed by Phil Friedland and Tom Pedriana.

11 FLETCHER STRICKLER: Good morning,  
12 Commissioner Stertz. Good morning people of Green  
13 Valley/Sahuarita and Douglas and wherever.

14 Commissioner Stertz, I was interested to  
15 hear your long history in Tucson and Green Valley  
16 area. I have lived here for 62 years, my entire  
17 life, and my next-door neighbor early in the 1960s  
18 was Mr. Maxim who built Green Valley. So I go back  
19 before this was even bulldozed.

20 The actions of the state legislature and  
21 the governor are a result of Arizona being an  
22 uncompetitive state for probably its entire  
23 existence.

24 When you have a district that is not  
25 competitive, either the entire state or the local

1 district or the congressional district, how do you  
2 beat the incumbent?

3           The only way to beat the incumbent is to  
4 be more to either that incumbent's right or that  
5 incumbent's left and the parties move farther and  
6 farther and farther apart and then they can never  
7 compromise and reach something that would serve the  
8 entire population of the state.

9           We've heard that Arizona is one-third  
10 Republican, Independent, and Democrat. Ideally  
11 every district, congressional or local, should have  
12 that balance.

13           Why? Because then your primaries are  
14 allowed to perhaps pick a moderate or a liberal or a  
15 conservative. Next time it might be an Independent  
16 voter. The point is it remains in flux and you get  
17 a more balanced representation of the people and  
18 your laws will become more compromising and all  
19 views will be settled.

20           I live in LD 26 which is also  
21 unincorporated Pima County by the north side of  
22 Tucson. And I am sensitive to all of the comments  
23 that you guys have made about Sahuarita and Green  
24 Valley being similar.

25           I'm also a mathematician, and I know that

1 to pick fair lines in a state that is so compact in  
2 its population centers and so diverse in its rural  
3 centers, that to get equally populated districts  
4 with as close as you can get representations of the  
5 political parties is almost mathematically  
6 impossible.

7           The lines have to be somewhere. I live  
8 in 26. I buy my groceries in 28, and I go to the  
9 movies in 24 or whatever. That is my district of  
10 community interest. It's the state. It's the city.

11           And Gabby Giffords, her district ends at  
12 Roger Road and Grijalva's begins on the other side.  
13 You got to have a line somewhere.

14           I don't want to comment on the local  
15 interest here. I do not live here, but just  
16 understand the difficulty that this Commission has  
17 had to face in trying to come up with equal  
18 population, equal representation of parties as best  
19 as they can.

20           And with that said, your legislative  
21 district map is woefully lacking, even if the  
22 Democrats were to win every competitive district as  
23 well as their own districts, there is no way under  
24 the sun that the Democrats could ever take control  
25 of the house.

1           This should not happen in a one-third,  
2 one-third, one-third state.

3           Thank you very much.

4           COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
5 much.

6           We've got Phil Friedland followed by Tom  
7 Pedriana and Rick Ernst.

8           PHILLIP FRIEDLAND: It's not easy going  
9 last -- very next to last.

10           My name is Phillip Friedland,  
11 F-r-i-e-d-l-a-n-d.

12           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Closer to the mic.

13           PHILLIP FRIEDLAND: I promise a couple  
14 things. Number one, I will not be as eloquent as  
15 some of the other speakers: I will not have the  
16 beeper go off. I did not travel three hours to get  
17 here, and I did not give up a six-hour opera to be  
18 here. I just gave up some exercises. So I guess it  
19 was pretty easy for me.

20           I have a quandary, too. I live in Quail  
21 Creek, so I'm not sure if I live in Green Valley or  
22 Sahuarita.

23           But let me start my comments.

24           As we all know, we've heard many times  
25 that November 2000 there was an overwhelming mandate

1 for Proposition 106 that we get legislation out of  
2 making determination about our redistricting and we  
3 put it into an Independent Commission.

4 The Democrat and Republican parties  
5 appointed two people from each of their parties.  
6 You, sir, were one of them, and I think has done an  
7 outstanding job.

8 The next task, and I think your first  
9 task, was really to appoint a chairperson. You had  
10 a pool of five people to pick up from, and  
11 unanimously you picked Colleen Mathison -- Mathis.

12 But I think that was a good choice.  
13 Hopefully you people think that was a good choice --  
14 for months, and I've attended some of the  
15 meetings -- you've worked diligently, you've worked  
16 hard and you took abuse.

17 You answered everybody's questions. You  
18 had respect for everybody, and you seemed to do it  
19 with a sense of demeanor and respect for everybody's  
20 comments. And I'm sure -- I attended a couple and  
21 some of them were just pretty outrageous, and I  
22 applaud you for that.

23 And I thank you for the work that you  
24 have done. And I ask you, Commissioner, I know this  
25 is a monologue, not a dialog, to either smile, shake



1 your head, or even wink at me, how do you feel about  
2 what's happened to the hard work that you people  
3 have put in? The fact that you worked together as a  
4 team to try to create something that was reasonable  
5 and seemingly not partisan, how do you feel about  
6 what's happened?

7 I don't see a wink or a smile.

8 Obviously, you can't answer me.

9 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Correct.

10 PHILLIP FRIEDLAND: I thought I would  
11 try.

12 It should be mentioned that the national  
13 congressional was approved four to one. So it  
14 seemed like it crossed party lines and it seemed  
15 pretty neat. The other 3 to 2 was obviously much  
16 closer. I'm not sure if its public where the votes  
17 went. I didn't do my homework about that, but I  
18 think it's an example of the fact that you pretty  
19 much agreed on the maps that you came up with.

20 Do I agree with the maps? No, and I  
21 don't think anybody completely would agree with the  
22 maps, but I agree with the effort that you people  
23 put in.

24 We have a country that is filled with  
25 political hatred where partisanship politics is the

1 rule rather than bipartisan workings. That almost  
2 seems unheard of.

3 And I think it's paramount for our  
4 legislators to work together and to work for the  
5 people that elected them and not for their parties  
6 and not for their reelection.

7 And I ask -- and I may be just a  
8 dreamer -- could Arizona -- could it start here?  
9 Could it start with this redistricting committee,  
10 where you're going to stand apart from your parties,  
11 the Democrats and the Republicans, and do what is  
12 right for this state?

13 Do it as right for the work that you have  
14 put in and forget the partisan politics. Could we  
15 for once be an example for the rest of this country  
16 and for the world that is watching very closely as  
17 to what's going on and start doing something that  
18 makes sense, that doesn't make Arizona any longer  
19 the laughing stock of this country.

20 I call home and ask -- my God, I didn't  
21 go -- I don't know what to do now.

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Wrap it up.

23 PHILLIP FRIEDLAND: Let me read this real  
24 fast.

25 So I think I said everything, but what --

1 I do want to thank you, sir, is for the work that  
2 you have done.

3 Please, please work to get this  
4 Commission back in order, and thanks so much for  
5 your service.

6 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: I appreciate it.

7 And for the record, how the votes went  
8 down on both of the maps, because it is public  
9 record, on the congressional maps, it was 3 for the  
10 approval of the congressional maps, 1 against and 1  
11 abstention. I voted against the congressional maps.

12 On the legislative maps, it was 4 votes  
13 for the legislative maps and 1 vote against the  
14 legislative maps, and I voted against the  
15 legislative maps, just to share that with you.

16 PHILLIP FRIEDLAND: Thank you sir.

17 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up Tom  
18 Pedriana, Rick Ernst and Barbara Cain.

19 TOM PEDRIANA: I always have to lower it.

20 My name is Tom Pedriana. The traditional  
21 spelling, P-e-d-r-i-a-n-a.

22 I thank you for the opportunity to speak  
23 before this Independent Redistricting Commission.

24 I first commend the voters of Arizona who  
25 overwhelming approved this process in 2000.

1           Second, I commend each of the  
2 commissioners for your diligence, your patience,  
3 your determination to deliver a fair outcome and  
4 your fortitude at enduring the shrill partisanship  
5 this process was designed to avoid.

6           Like almost everyone, I don't expect to  
7 be completely happy with the final outcome, whatever  
8 that is, but I believe in the process.

9           I endorse the draft congressional map but  
10 I would recommend the legislative map that creates  
11 more competitive districts.

12           I would also recommend an outcome that  
13 preserves the natural and traditional community of  
14 interest between Green Valley and Sahuarita in a  
15 single district.

16           When I purchased a home in Quail Creek I  
17 asked the realtor, do I tell people that my address  
18 is in Sahuarita or Green Valley?

19           Her response back then was, "It doesn't  
20 really matter. It's all really just one big  
21 community. The post office will know where to  
22 deliver your mail." And she turned out to be right,  
23 I believe.

24           And I feel that as these communities are  
25 linked with Central Tucson by the I-19 corridor,

1 there exists economic and security reasons to also  
2 link them politically.

3           The concept of fair competition seems to  
4 totally logical to me. Voting in a district  
5 intentionally drawn to perpetuate a majority for one  
6 party is like playing a football game against a team  
7 with 15 players on the field. No matter how much  
8 you care or how hard you work or how well you play,  
9 you just don't have a fair chance to win.

10           Further, I regard any interference in the  
11 work of this Commission, any effort to dismantle it  
12 or undermine its independent nature to be in clear  
13 defiance of the will of the majority of Arizona  
14 voters. I regard it as a reprehensible affront to  
15 me and 56 percent of voters who approved Proposition  
16 106.

17           We did not approve it with the  
18 understanding that the party in power could simply  
19 nullify or alter the work of the Commission if it  
20 chose with no evidence to justify doing so.

21           We did not intend that the party in power  
22 could decide whose votes are more important.

23           I stand by the spirit and the letter of  
24 Proposition 106. I respect the work of this  
25 Commission and demand that the governor and

1 legislature also respect it and a product of its  
2 work.

3 Thank you for your service.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

5 Rick Ernst followed by Barbara Cain and Elaine Lim.

6 RICK ERNST: Good morning.

7 My name is Rick Ernst, R-i-c-k,  
8 E-r-n-s-t.

9 I've been a resident of Green Valley for  
10 the past nine years, and I must admit I've talked  
11 disparagingly about Arizona politics because I did  
12 not have any reason to have any opinion on what the  
13 state gun is or whether we should have a tea party  
14 license plate.

15 But I believe in the wisdom of crowds and  
16 I'm very enthused and very inspired by what I hear  
17 today. This process of deciding the legislative  
18 districts and congressional districts is really  
19 important to our democracy.

20 It's important for all of us to have fair  
21 and competitive districts. That's not to say that  
22 it's very difficult to draw those lines. It is very  
23 difficult. And I commend the Commission and the  
24 work that they have done and the endless meetings  
25 and the endless speeches that they have listened to.

1 I would like to make one recommendation,  
2 however. I would recommend that Green Valley, where  
3 I am a resident, be included in LD 2. We have  
4 common concerns here in Green Valley and Sahuarita.  
5 We share water, we share air quality, we share  
6 educational opportunities, health care, and, of  
7 course, transportation as well as law enforcement  
8 and many other issues.

9 I would like to keep those communities of  
10 interest together so that we can elect a legislative  
11 senator and representative who is from our area and  
12 represents our interests, not from Douglas or  
13 Thatcher or any of those rural communities on the  
14 eastern part of the state.

15 Thank you to the Commission for their  
16 efforts. I appreciate all that you have done.

17 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
18 much.

19 Looks like Barbara Cain, Elaine Lim, and  
20 Bayard Brick.

21 BARBARA CAIN: Barbara Cain, C-a-i-n.  
22 And to my knowledge, I am not related to the  
23 Republican candidate.

24 I want to thank the Commission, again,  
25 for their work.

1           This is the third redistricting meeting  
2 that I have attended, and I am impressed with the  
3 quality of your efforts. And I'm appalled at what's  
4 happened to the chair at the hands of our governor  
5 and the senate.

6           I think they do not want us to have a  
7 voice in our own government. I believe that they  
8 want to outrule any competitive districts and to  
9 draw them to protect their particular people.

10          I hope that you will not let that happen.

11          I came to Arizona in 1943 as a little  
12 girl and it was quite a different state. However,  
13 then we had our allowed two senators and one  
14 congress person.

15          So we have grown a lot in the ensuing  
16 years, and I have four children that added to the  
17 population.

18          So today we have to look at what are we  
19 looking for for Arizona? And I believe we want to  
20 go back to the founding fathers who were looking for  
21 independence and freedom of choice and they wanted  
22 it to be independent and competitive in our pursuit  
23 of happiness.

24          Right now I think there's a lot of  
25 unhappy people in Arizona with the actions of our



1 current leadership. So the way we can go back is if  
2 you can draw us some maps that give us enough  
3 competitive districts that they can't carry  
4 everything.

5 Right now when I look at your own  
6 documentation on one of your charts, it shows that  
7 if the election in 2010 had taken place with these  
8 maps, the Republicans would still have control of 19  
9 of the 30 districts.

10 We need to get it so that it's a little  
11 bit more balanced. I know it's a hard thing and I'm  
12 not a math professor, but I know it's hard.

13 Please try. We are the laughing stock.  
14 I can tell you I've got relatives all over the globe  
15 and they think we're really funny.

16 So I would like to be proud of our  
17 beautiful state and the fact that we're going to  
18 turn things around this year.

19 Thank you again.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

21 Next is Elaine Lim followed by Bayard or  
22 Bayard Brick and Barbara Tellman.

23 ELAINE LIM: Good morning.

24 My name is Elaine Lim, L-i-m, from  
25 Tucson, Arizona.

1 I'll keep my remarks brief.

2 I want to first and foremost thank the  
3 commissioners for their many months of hard work.  
4 While I might not agree with every aspect of the  
5 maps as presented, I know that we have before us  
6 what -- what we have before us is much better than  
7 what our current legislature might have presented to  
8 us.

9 The one issue I continue to have a  
10 problem with is that of the small number of  
11 competitive districts.

12 A true democracy cannot exist without  
13 competitive districts. Without it, the complaints  
14 that we so often hear, that one's vote does not  
15 really count for too many will indeed be true.

16 As an aside, I would be proud to have  
17 Green Valley as part of LD -- LD 2 and I want to  
18 thank the commissioners for listening.

19 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
20 much.

21 Bayard Brick.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think he left.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Barbara Tellman  
24 followed by Ermaline Hannum and Penny Pestle.

25 BARBARA TELLMAN: Barbara Tellman,

1 T-e-l-l-m-a-n.

2 I want to say how much I appreciate the  
3 process that you people have been going through for  
4 the past several months.

5 I have attended quite a few of your  
6 hearings in Southern Arizona, and I have watched you  
7 patiently for hours as people go on and on and on.  
8 I really appreciate your willingness to listen to  
9 the public.

10 I personally have expressed concerns in a  
11 number of areas. I have talked about the role of  
12 the prisoners and being counted as part of the  
13 population.

14 I have showed concern about splitting  
15 districts, such as splitting Cochise County into  
16 two, splitting Green Valley and Sahuarita and  
17 splitting Marana and Oro Valley.

18 I've talked about the need for more  
19 competitive districts. I live in District 3, which  
20 is proposed to be about 62 percent Democrat. I am a  
21 Democrat and I ask that you put more Republicans in  
22 my district.

23 I told you a lot of what I liked and what  
24 I didn't like, as did hundreds and hundreds of other  
25 people.

1           What I didn't like was very clear and  
2 what I really, really, really don't like is the fact  
3 that 21 Republican senators have decided that their  
4 opinions are more important than those of us that  
5 have been following this for a long time. And I  
6 really think that the idea that the governor had  
7 such a crisis on her hands that she had to call a  
8 meeting, special session of the legislature with so  
9 little warning that none of us had any opportunity  
10 to tell them what we wanted them to vote.

11           And I think this is really a corruption  
12 of the democratic process and I hope that when the  
13 courts get a hold of this appeal to the legislature  
14 decision, that they would decide to return our  
15 independence to the Independent Redistricting  
16 Commission.

17           Thank you.

18           COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

19           Next up is Ermaline Hannum followed by  
20 Penny Pestle and Mary Lois Connell.

21           Is Ermaline still here?

22           ERMALINE HANNUM: I'm not speaking. I  
23 must have signed the wrong paper.

24           COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Okay. Not  
25 speaking.

1 Penny Pestle followed by Mary Lois  
2 Connell and Bunny Weggeman.

3 PENNY PESTLE: Good morning. My name is  
4 Penny Pestle, P-e-n-n-y, P-e-s-t-l-e.

5 I have lived in Green Valley five years  
6 exactly today. So it seems fitting that I am here  
7 this morning.

8 And I actually almost did not come today.  
9 I was tired. I've been very busy this week, but I  
10 realized I had to be here really for several  
11 reasons.

12 First of all, my concern -- no, really my  
13 rage at the actions of the governor really  
14 necessitated all of us being here this morning. And  
15 clearly there's a real consensus on that issue.

16 Secondly, this process, this process  
17 that, Commissioner, you are involved in and your  
18 colleagues are involved in, is so important to the  
19 future of the state.

20 We really need to look at our politics  
21 differently and to move to a different -- a  
22 different place politically than we are today.

23 And your diligence and dedication in  
24 pursuing this against fairly extreme odds is, I  
25 think, to be commended and fulfills -- begins to

1 fulfill the potential that the voters in 2000  
2 expressed.

3           So it's important that we all be here.

4           I, too, echo what has been said about LD  
5 District 2. I think it's very important that Green  
6 Valley/Sahuarita and appropriate areas of Tucson be  
7 connected. We do have a tremendous commonality of  
8 interest not only in terms of shopping and our daily  
9 activities, but those of pressing issues that many  
10 of us think about often; the issues of water  
11 pollution, adequacy of water, particularly as we  
12 look out 10 or 20 or 30 years. I don't believe  
13 those folks who say we have a hundred years worth of  
14 water. I simply don't believe it. Pollution, air  
15 pollution, the mines and the role of mining in our  
16 area in this beautiful Santa Cruz Valley.

17           And finally, the transportation  
18 commonalities. We have such a predominant corridor  
19 of transportation here and it is very different from  
20 the corridor that is just on the other side of the  
21 mountain.

22           So I very much agree with that concern.

23           I also agree that in general, the  
24 competitiveness issue is one we really look at. And  
25 I was really impressed that by that analysis that 19

1 out of the current 30 districts would still be  
2 Republican, and incontrovertibly so. That is of  
3 concern. That is not competitiveness, although I  
4 suspect it's a move in the right direction.

5 The question I want to leave you with and  
6 what's really been concerning me over the last  
7 several years is why would anyone come to do  
8 business in Arizona? Why would anyone do that? Why  
9 would a responsible business person in a large or  
10 small company make the decision to come here?

11 Because we really are in many ways and  
12 have become even in the five years I've been here,  
13 much more of a Banana Republic.

14 No, I'm hearing that term all over the  
15 place. We really need to look at how we are  
16 governed, how we are legislated because it really  
17 influences the future of this state economically and  
18 socially.

19 Thank you very much for your time.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Mary Lois Connell  
21 followed by Bunny Weggeman and Amy Johnson.

22 MARY LOIS CONNELL: Thank you.

23 My name is Mary Lois Connell. That's  
24 okay. I've even been called Louis. I don't where  
25 that came from.

1           It's Mary, Lois is L-o-i-s, Connell,  
2 C-o-n-n-e-l-l.

3           I won't bore this Commission or the folks  
4 that are still out here by repeating what has been  
5 so eloquently and so effectively by prior speakers  
6 in terms of the connection between Sahuarita and  
7 Green Valley and the entire I-19 corridor.

8           I wish I could stand here and repeat  
9 everything they said, but it's been said enough. I  
10 just want to reiterate -- I started with Mr. Sills  
11 going all the way back to the last speaker, and this  
12 is an issue for us, it's a serious issue.

13           Competitiveness, I think Mr. Friedman has  
14 addressed that very effectively in terms of that.  
15 And my understanding of the Commission's mandate,  
16 you are obligated to follow federal law and those  
17 are your top two priorities. You have to -- you  
18 have no choice in that.

19           The other three mandates are there. My  
20 understanding is what competitiveness is once you  
21 satisfied everything else, then you can think about  
22 competitiveness.

23           The interesting thing is in reading some  
24 of the comments made in the Commission, hearing the  
25 comments today, competitiveness is a top priority



1 for us, for the citizens of this state.

2 And when I look at all of the other  
3 issues, competitiveness is so tightly bound with  
4 every other issue, whether it's economic, or social,  
5 political.

6 And I'll make my comment about the total  
7 inappropriateness of the action by Governor Jan  
8 Brewer and the other 21 legislators in -- the  
9 Republican legislators in the senate.

10 This is an attack on the Commission, and  
11 I want to commend you for continuing your work.

12 I agree with others that all five of you,  
13 including Colleen Mathis, have been given a  
14 thankless job. You have been given a very difficult  
15 job. The gentleman who identified himself as a  
16 mathematician pointed out, there's not a situation  
17 which everybody is going to be happy. The idea is  
18 to get the best you can for the most people.

19 The action by Jan Brewer and the  
20 Republican-controlled legislature is an attack on  
21 this Independent Commission, which is outrageous.  
22 It is an attack on due process.

23 By removing Colleen Mathis without giving  
24 her due process is outrageous. This is an attack  
25 not only on the Commission and on Colleen Mathis

1 personally, it is an attack on the democratic  
2 process and I believe it is an attack on democracy  
3 itself.

4           And it is my hope, it is my hope that all  
5 citizens of Arizona are going to take a look at this  
6 in the next election, regardless of what party, and  
7 do what is ethically and morally right and kick the  
8 bastards out.

9           Thank you.

10           COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up is Bunny  
11 Weggeman.

12           VERNA WEGGEMAN: My name legal name is  
13 Verna Weggeman, W-e-g-g-e-m-a-n.

14           And I am for putting Sahuarita and Green  
15 Valley together. I wanted to be one of the first  
16 ones to get up here today. I didn't think of it  
17 until halfway through because I wanted to give a pep  
18 talk to the Commission as well as to all of us.

19           The world is watching us. I was  
20 surprised to hear on the Rachel Maddow show what was  
21 going on. She's the one that told me -- this is a  
22 national program, national news. She's the one that  
23 told me about Governor Brewer and what happened this  
24 week.

25           And because she is watching, the nation

1 is watching and the world is watching us. She  
2 congratulated us on trying to get more democracy in  
3 Arizona.

4 She also ridiculed the actions of the  
5 governor. And ridicule is a powerful weapon.

6 I thank you for doing what you are doing,  
7 and I want you to continue and I just want to  
8 encourage everybody that is interested in democracy  
9 to keep up on what's going on.

10 Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very  
12 much.

13 Amy Johnson and following will be the  
14 last speaker, who is Pat Fleming.

15 AMY JOHNSON: Amy Johnson, A-m-y,  
16 J-o-h-n-s-o-n.

17 I addressed you at one of the meetings in  
18 Tucson. And at that time I said that as a retired  
19 business analyst for Muscle Investments, I knew you  
20 are not only going to make not everyone happy, you  
21 are not going to make anybody happy.

22 It's a logical impossibility with all of  
23 the criteria you had. And I have spoken at times  
24 about competitiveness, because coming into this  
25 state knowing it was so Republican but then finding

1 out that it was really split 30, 30, 30 between  
2 Independents, Republicans, and Democrats, that I  
3 thought it was very important.

4 And I cited a lot of the arguments that  
5 other people have cited today also about how you get  
6 good people who are willing to compromise, see the  
7 other side.

8 And I've got to say that I was wrong  
9 because you did make somebody happy, and that's me.  
10 Not all the way but pretty close because even though  
11 we haven't picked up as many competitive districts,  
12 we have made progress. And clearly people are so  
13 upset with that and can't handle that, it's resulted  
14 in what's been happening in the last week, but I'm  
15 almost happy.

16 But the one thing I really wanted to  
17 encourage you to relook at is Sahuarita and Green  
18 Valley.

19 I retired here about 14 months ago. When  
20 I was retiring, because I had no minor children and  
21 I was in an area where I didn't have a lot of  
22 family, I could go anywhere in the entire world. I  
23 considered Chicago, where I grew up; I considered  
24 the Northeast, where supposedly I would be more  
25 comfortable in my lifestyle; I considered the

1 Southeast; I considered Kenya; and I considered  
2 France. And I chose the I-19 corridor south of  
3 Tucson.

4 I have been volunteering once a month at  
5 Crossroads Mission in Nogales. My favorite store is  
6 Costco, Home Depot is second and that's where I do a  
7 lot of my shopping in Tucson.

8 I have my health care from the Indian  
9 Health Service in San Xavier.

10 I have family in Tubac, and I have -- I  
11 attend the Methodist Church in Green Valley.

12 I go to the dog park every morning. So  
13 that's why I'm maybe a little scruffier than usual.  
14 I came right from the dog park in Sahuarita.

15 And I haven't said where I live. I live  
16 in Sahuarita. I did not know that until we wrote up  
17 the escrow agreement on my property. I thought I  
18 was moving to Green Valley.

19 It's one place, it's one group of people.  
20 And clearly the issues that we have are all the  
21 same.

22 And to take us apart would actually, as I  
23 understand it, even make the district a little less  
24 competitive by putting Green Valley more into the  
25 people than the district that they would more

1 normally vote with. And so both districts become a  
2 little less competitive by splitting us up that way.

3 So because we really are not similar, we  
4 really are the same, you can't tell one from the  
5 other.

6 I really encourage you to make that one  
7 slight adjustment to the grid you have and also to  
8 hang tough when people are saying no, your stuff is  
9 worthless. And whether you voted for or against,  
10 you all participated heavily. You all had your  
11 voices heard. You all represented the people that  
12 you are hearing, and I really thank you for what you  
13 have done. And I urge you to hang tough.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Our final speaker  
16 is Pat Fleming.

17 PAT FLEMING: Thank you, Commissioner  
18 Stertz. It's nice to see you again.

19 Ladies and gentlemen, thank you all for  
20 hanging tough and for me being the last one here  
21 today.

22 I usually come prepared with a few pages  
23 of notes that I would like to share with people;  
24 today I didn't. I've been busy, but I made the trip  
25 from Cochise County -- Pat Fleming, F-l-e-m-i-n-g --

1 two hours, not quite what Susan Bickel has done.

2           Having been to as many hearings in  
3 Southern Arizona as I have and, Commission, with  
4 what you have been hearing, I think by the vote of  
5 the people who have been at these meetings, you've  
6 got your solution to Southern Arizona legislative  
7 districts, at least.

8           I live currently in district --  
9 Legislative District 25. Most people here are in  
10 Legislative District 30 as it is right now.

11           Considering the Legislative District 1  
12 and being from Cochise County where you heard from  
13 so many people there saying bring back into our  
14 county the communities of Douglas, Naco, Bisbee,  
15 part of Palominas and part of Hereford, I think you  
16 have a pretty good gist of what's happening there.

17           The way Legislative District 2 is right  
18 now, that has been obviously packed, giving  
19 Democrats a 26 point advantage while taking away a  
20 small section of registered Democrats from those  
21 communities I just mentioned.

22           No solution there in making the proposed  
23 LD 2 a little more competitive. It certainly  
24 doesn't solve the problem of making LD 1 any more  
25 competitive, but I believe it is what the will of

1 the people of those communities is.

2           Hearing what people here have said about  
3 the I-19 corridor is not in any kind of controversy,  
4 to what I believe. Although I would certainly love  
5 for the community of -- communities of Sahuarita and  
6 Green Valley to be in the same district with me. I  
7 think that would be just fine, but I wanted to let  
8 you know that I attended the Cochise County  
9 elections department review of the maps, and I know  
10 it's tough to get into that kind of detail, but I  
11 just want to make sure that you know and  
12 commissioners who are watching, that the legislative  
13 and congressional lines that are hitting a section  
14 of Cochise County that delineates LD 1 from LD 2  
15 have some really unusual diversion.

16           And watching that really gave me another  
17 insight into how complicated your jobs have had to  
18 be in finding and devising some of those legislative  
19 and congressional lines.

20           So it's certainly by no means an easy  
21 task. So I add my appreciation for what you have  
22 all been doing.

23           As I have spoken before about packing, LD  
24 2 has obviously been packed, and it's going to  
25 certainly be reviewed by the Department of Justice.



1 So I think some of these suggestions need to be  
2 well-considered.

3 But I also wanted to talk about  
4 additional competitiveness, but I think that what I  
5 don't hear enough of and I would like to, and I  
6 guess this is the last meeting, is to remind people  
7 that the state legislature needs to stay out of the  
8 business of drawing the lines. It hasn't worked  
9 before. You look at what happened to LD 3 -- LD 30  
10 and there's certainly no continuity -- what the  
11 other word is.

12 The Commission has already honored the  
13 voters' decision that they made in 2000 by putting  
14 this process to be represented.

15 But I have to add here to the last  
16 speaker, to put it politely, I'm very dismayed at  
17 what the majority members of the senate and the  
18 governor of Arizona have done through this past  
19 week, but I have to add a little more emphasis there  
20 to being actually disgusted because of the bullying  
21 that some of the congressional members have done to  
22 apparently turn the state representatives, the  
23 states -- well representatives and senators into  
24 that decision to make that removal of Chairwoman  
25 Mathis.

1 I thank you all. Hearing -- going to all  
2 of these different meetings has certainly been an  
3 education for me, and I appreciate all of the input  
4 and the time that you all put in, Commissioner.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

7 Thank you everyone.

8 Just a couple of quick closing remarks.

9 First of all, thank you all for showing  
10 up on a Saturday morning and taking the time out of  
11 your lives to give us your thoughts.

12 The reason that this is such a challenge  
13 is because you have heard, as Andrew had outlined,  
14 the criteria -- there's constitutional criteria.

15 Proposition 106 is fairly complete and  
16 yet it's fairly complex and it's almost  
17 counterintuitive. As the mathematician will  
18 understand the idea about that once you achieve  
19 voters' rights criteria, you take out -- when you  
20 look at statistically a large percentage of the  
21 voting-age Hispanic population is registered as  
22 Democrat.

23 You take out a large population of those  
24 and then you put -- then you place those to meet the  
25 Voters Right Act and then you layer on the concept

1 of competitiveness and we've got mountain ranges and  
2 rural communities and highway corridors and we  
3 really have two very large suburban areas in the  
4 state and we've got a piece of geography that is  
5 mind-boggling in size.

6           So in trying to piece all of this  
7 together, how it ends up looking after the fact can  
8 end up looking a little bizarre.

9           Now, I was in Cochise County on our first  
10 tour, I was in Yuma County the first tour. I've  
11 been literally in all corners of the state except  
12 for the upper northeast corner in the public  
13 hearings.

14           And I'm a tremendous believer that once  
15 you develop your communities of interest and  
16 understand geography, transportation corridors, et  
17 cetera, the natural outpouring of that is going to  
18 be the adjustments to competitiveness.

19           I think that's what the crafters of  
20 Proposition 106 gave to us to do. And that if you  
21 push competitiveness to the top, you end up creating  
22 these wholly just bizarre-looking maps where you're  
23 grabbing pockets of population and then ignoring the  
24 ideas of communities of interest and geography, et  
25 cetera.

1           This is a marriage of -- I had explained  
2 this when we had our very first hearing. The idea  
3 of a stew. I actually called it a jambalaya because  
4 there's going to be so much spice in the process of  
5 getting there.

6           So again, this week has been a very  
7 difficult and challenging one. I want you to keep  
8 all of us, all of the commissioners in your thoughts  
9 and your prayers as you continue on the week as  
10 there is a litany of other experiences that are  
11 going to be taking place this upcoming week.

12           As the Commission is continuing to move  
13 forward, there was a process that was set forward  
14 both in the Constitution in Proposition 106 for  
15 remedy, and that is one direction that's taking  
16 place right now, where the appellate court  
17 appointment board is going to be meeting on Monday  
18 to select a slate of Independents.

19           Simultaneously there is -- the Commission  
20 itself has filed litigation against the State for  
21 the actions that were taken against Commissioner --  
22 or against Chairman Mathis.

23           So this will shake itself out. There's  
24 two different processes, and one of those is going  
25 to be the one that follows.

1           The good news about it is we are a land  
2 of laws and those are laws that we follow, and I'm  
3 glad and pleased and proud to be part of this  
4 Commission as challenging and interesting as it has  
5 been so far.

6           So thank you. Enjoy the rest of your  
7 Saturday.

8           The time is 11:18.

9           (The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.)

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I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Reporter  
No. 50637 for the State of Arizona, do hereby  
certify that the foregoing 109 printed pages  
constitute a full, true, and accurate transcript of  
the proceedings had in the foregoing matter, all  
done to the best of my skill and ability.

WITNESS my hand this 9th day of November,  
2011.

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MICHELLE D. ELAM  
Certified Reporter  
Certificate No. 50637