

1                   **ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

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6                   November 2, 2011  
                    11:16 a.m.

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9                   **Location**

10                   Cottonwood Recreation Center  
                    150 South 6th Street  
11                   Cottonwood, Arizona 86326

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14                   **Attending**

15                   Jose M. Herrera, Vice Chair

16                   Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director  
17                   Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist  
                    Joe Kanefield, Counsel, Ballard Spahr  
                    (telephonically)

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22                   **PREPARED BY:**

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

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Cottonwood, Arizona  
November 2, 2011  
11:16 a.m.

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4 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you all for  
5 being here.

6 My name is Jose Herrera. I'm the co-vice  
7 chair of the IRC.

8 The time is -- I don't have a watch.  
9 Buck -- it's 11:16, so we'll start the meeting now.

10 Again, thank you for being here. This is  
11 a beautiful facility. So thank you to the town of  
12 Cottonwood for hosting us and thank you all for  
13 being here.

14 Before we start, let's go ahead and start  
15 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

16 (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

17 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: We, unfortunately,  
18 ran out of handouts. So for those of you that  
19 didn't get handouts and someone next to you does  
20 have a handout, if you guys don't mind sharing. You  
21 look like a friendly crowd, so get to know your  
22 neighbor.

23 We do have the maps blown up in the back.

24 Also, if you did not sign in, please make  
25 sure you sign in.

1           And if you plan to speak, we do need one  
2 of these yellow sheets from you. We will -- to  
3 maximize public input, we will limit the comments to  
4 three minutes and we will stick to those three  
5 minutes. So as soon as the buzzer sounds, that  
6 means your three minutes are up and stop talking.

7           You know -- so let me just introduce you  
8 to a couple of people.

9           We have the IRC staff, starting with  
10 Kristina Gomez, the deputy executive director.

11           We have Buck Forst, our chief technology  
12 officer. Buck.

13           We have Shane Shields and Karen Herrman,  
14 our community outreach representative.

15           And then we have from -- on my right,  
16 Willie Desmond with Strategic Telemetry.

17           And then we have Joe Kanefield who is our  
18 legal counsel and he's -- I think he's streaming via  
19 the web. So you may want to say hi to Joe.

20           And then we have, obviously, the  
21 commissioners that are -- couldn't be here today but  
22 they are -- I think the majority of them are  
23 watching the video.

24           We have about 29 to 30 of these public  
25 hearings, so we are not all -- it make sense if we

1 split them up. So I attend as many as I can and my  
2 other fellow commissioners attend as many as they  
3 can as well.

4 And then we have Michelle Elam, the court  
5 reporter. So when you have someone -- I think  
6 somebody is waving their hand.

7 What is your name?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you stand up  
9 and talk so we can see who is talking?

10 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: I can definitely do  
11 that.

12 Did you want me to stand for the whole  
13 meeting? I will do that.

14 So we have Michelle Elam, who is the  
15 court reporter. When you come up and speak, make  
16 sure you speak loudly, spell your name, first and  
17 last name, who you are representing, and also the  
18 city that you are from.

19 And before we start with the comments,  
20 we're going to have Mr. Desmond do a presentation on  
21 the second round of public hearings.

22 Mr. Desmond.

23 WILLIE DESMOND: Hi. Thank you all for  
24 allowing me to speak to you today.

25 My name is Willie Desmond.

1 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: You need to stand.

2 WILLIE DESMOND: Just one second.

3 All right. My name is Willie Desmond. I  
4 work with Strategic Telemetry. We're the firm hired  
5 to provide technical assistance to the Commission as  
6 it does the mapping.

7 The purpose of the meeting here today is  
8 to hear your comments on the draft maps.

9 The draft maps are currently under a  
10 30-day review window where the public is encouraged  
11 to tell us what they think of them so that the final  
12 maps can be tweaked to reflect the will of the  
13 people.

14 Before getting to the draft maps, though,  
15 I want to just give you a little background  
16 presentation on how these maps were developed and  
17 the process of redistricting here in Arizona.

18 Okay. Arizona's redistricting process is  
19 governed by the state Constitution, which was  
20 amended in the year 2000 following the passage of  
21 Proposition 106.

22 Proposition 106 established the Arizona  
23 Independent Redistricting Commission and it laid out  
24 a series of criteria that should be followed when  
25 drawing congressional and legislative district

1 lines. The lines are adjusted following the  
2 completion of each census.

3 The most recent census happened in 2010,  
4 and following the 2010 census, Arizona was allocated  
5 a tenth -- or I'm sorry, a ninth additional  
6 congressional district.

7 Proposition 106 outlined the  
8 constitutional criteria that must be followed when  
9 drawing these lines. And, again, because Arizona  
10 gained a ninth congressional district, the lines  
11 would have needed to be adjusted. Also because of  
12 population and growth and shrinkage in different  
13 areas, the legislative and congressional district  
14 lines were far off balance and would have needed to  
15 be balanced anyway.

16 So the first criteria is that all plans  
17 must comply with the U.S. Constitution and the  
18 Voting Rights Act.

19 The second criteria is that all plans  
20 must have equal population.

21 These first two criteria are federally  
22 mandated. So any redistricting that happens  
23 anywhere in the country must satisfy these two  
24 criteria.

25 The other six are Arizona specific and

1 part of the Arizona state Constitution.

2           They are that to the extent practicable,  
3 the districts must be compact and contiguous;  
4 respect communities of interest; use visible  
5 geographic features such as cities, towns, and  
6 legislative -- or cities, towns, and county  
7 boundaries, and undivided census tracts. Finally,  
8 they favor competitive districts where there is no  
9 significant detriment to other goals.

10           Just to expound a little bit more on the  
11 Voting Rights Act, Arizona's congressional and  
12 legislative districts must receive preclearance or  
13 approval from the Department of Justice or a federal  
14 court under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act  
15 before they can take effect.

16           To get preclearance, Arizona must  
17 demonstrate that the new districts do not  
18 discriminate against minority voters in purpose or  
19 effect, meaning there can be no intentional or  
20 accidental discrimination.

21           Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting  
22 plans cannot be retrogressive. That means they  
23 cannot weaken or reduce minority voters' rights.

24           Finally, the presence of discrimination  
25 can be determined by analyzing population data and

1 previous election results.

2           Okay. The redistricting process can be  
3 broken down into several steps, the first of which  
4 was to establish a Commissioner. Commissioners were  
5 appointed earlier this year through a thorough  
6 screening process. They serve in a voluntary  
7 capacity for the state of Arizona.

8           Following that, there was a first round  
9 of public hearings. These public hearings are  
10 designed to hear the public comments about what they  
11 think is important in redistricting such as  
12 geography, communities of interest, minority voters'  
13 rights, and competitiveness.

14           This year the Commission held 23 first  
15 round public hearings throughout the state solely to  
16 hear the public's opinions. Those occurred during  
17 July and August.

18           The next step is the actual mapping.

19           Per Proposition 106, the Commission needs  
20 to start with a blank slate. They cannot pay  
21 attention to where incumbents live or the old  
22 districts. They start completely fresh.

23           Following that, the Commission has to  
24 establish a grid map. We'll talk a little bit more  
25 about the grid map in a minute, but what you should



1 know is that it's simply a map that divides the  
2 population into an even -- as a grid-like pattern as  
3 possible. This grid map only meets two of the  
4 criteria, though. It only has equal population and  
5 compact and contiguous districts.

6 So what happens then is that that grid  
7 map is adjusted to meet the other six criteria  
8 outlined in the Arizona state Constitution.

9 Since adopting the grid maps, the  
10 Commission has met more than 25 times to consider  
11 adjustments to the grid map and to accommodate all  
12 of the state's constitutional criteria.

13 During this time they not only met to  
14 adjust line moves but they heard a lot of public  
15 input at every meeting and public comments and they  
16 received citizens' maps and maps that different  
17 groups had created and wanted to turn in.

18 Following the completion of that process,  
19 draft maps were approved. The draft congressional  
20 map was approved on October 10th and the draft  
21 legislative map was approved on October -- or, I'm  
22 sorry, the draft congressional was approved on  
23 October 3rd and the draft legislative map was  
24 approved on October 10th.

25 Following the approval of the draft maps,

1 a 30-day public comment period happens, and that is  
2 what's happening right here. So there's a second  
3 round of public hearings.

4           Currently the Commission is visiting --  
5 it says 25 but it's actually up to 31 now -- cities  
6 and towns throughout Arizona to hear what the public  
7 has to say about these draft maps. And this process  
8 has gone on throughout October and will continue in  
9 the early part of November.

10           Once this process is over, the Commission  
11 will meet again to vote on final maps. So upon  
12 completion of the final maps, they will be turned  
13 into the Department of Justice for preclearance.  
14 And again, because Arizona is subject to Section 5  
15 of the Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be  
16 approved by a federal Department of Justice or a  
17 federal court in Washington, D.C., before they can  
18 be used for Arizona elections.

19           So now just to go through the development  
20 of these draft maps you see today.

21           On the screen you see the current  
22 congressional draft map. This map was last used in  
23 2010. It was retired after those elections and will  
24 be replaced by the maps that the Commission is  
25 working on right now.

1           Per Proposition 106, the starting point  
2 for those new maps was a completely blank slate.

3           Again, they developed a grid map. The  
4 Commission requested that two grid maps for both the  
5 legislative and the congressional districts be put  
6 together because there's multiple ways of making a  
7 grid-like pattern across the state to have equal  
8 population.

9           They picked option 2 for both the  
10 legislative and congressional, and you can see that  
11 here.

12           So once they have this grid map, they go  
13 through the process of adjusting those lines to come  
14 up with the draft map.

15           As you can see here, this is the draft  
16 map. There's also copies in the back if you're  
17 interested and in the packets.

18           Some of the highlights of the draft map  
19 are two predominantly rural districts, three border  
20 districts, three districts in the Greater Tucson  
21 area, five districts that are entirely within  
22 Maricopa County. The map avoids splitting Indian  
23 reservations, and there are two districts where  
24 minority voters should have an opportunity to elect  
25 candidates of their choice.

1           Again -- now going onto the legislative  
2 map, this is the current legislative map that was  
3 last used for the 2010 elections and is being phased  
4 out now.

5           Again, we started with a blank slate for  
6 the legislative map and went to a grid map, as you  
7 can see here.

8           Again, the Commission met 25 times to  
9 adjust that grid map to come up with the draft map  
10 you see today.

11           Some of the highlights of the draft  
12 legislative map are that the old legislative  
13 districts had very large population deviation  
14 amongst themselves because of population growth in  
15 areas and loss in other areas.

16           So the most populated districts in the  
17 old -- in the old plan, there was 378,000 people  
18 living there and the least populated had 155,000  
19 people. So some districts were more than twice as  
20 big as others. This draft map has a deviation of  
21 from about 207,000 to 215,000.

22           Also to comply with the Voting Rights  
23 Act, there are ten districts in which minority  
24 candidates should have an opportunity to elect  
25 candidates of their choice.

1           And the draft map includes three  
2 districts wholly within Pima County, and three  
3 additional Southern Arizona districts. There are  
4 seventeen districts primarily within Maricopa  
5 County, and nine districts primarily rural.

6           Okay. As we mentioned earlier, the  
7 purpose of these public hearings is to get your  
8 input. A great way to do that is to attend these  
9 meetings and speak. So I thank you all again for  
10 being here today.

11           Please feel free to speak about anything  
12 you care to, but possible criteria would be -- the  
13 constitutional requirements, the draft maps, you can  
14 also, besides speaking today, you can fill out one  
15 of the blue forms and turn those in. Your comments  
16 will also go on the record that way or you can fill  
17 out a form on our website, which is  
18 [www.azredistricting.org](http://www.azredistricting.org) or call the office at  
19 602-542-5221 or toll free at 855-733-7478.

20           And we would encourage you to visit our  
21 website. There's a lot of useful resources there.  
22 As you can see there -- well, as you might able to  
23 see there are some red arrows here highlighting  
24 different areas of the website.

25           The first, which is a meetings tab, that

1 will give you information on upcoming meetings, both  
2 the places and times.

3           You can also go back and look at the old  
4 meetings. So if you're curious about how these maps  
5 were developed, you can go back and watch the 25  
6 meetings where the Commission met to adjust the grid  
7 maps. There you can watch the video or you can read  
8 the transcripts.

9           You can also fill out public input forms  
10 and submit them on the map -- on the website. And  
11 probably most important you can go and look at these  
12 draft maps.

13           So there's two places to click on and see  
14 the draft maps.

15           If you do, you'll be taken to a page that  
16 looks a lot like this. The maps are available in  
17 several formats. There are JPEGs, PDFs, and Google  
18 maps. There are reports there on the population  
19 distribution, competitiveness, compactness, splits,  
20 the components that make up each of the districts.  
21 There's also mapping files, if you have your own  
22 software and you would like to upload the maps  
23 yourself.

24           But I do want to talk just a second about  
25 the Google maps.

1           If you click on the Google maps link,  
2 which is circled in red here, it will take you to a  
3 page that looks a lot like this. It will be a  
4 Google maps page on your Internet browser. And with  
5 this you can zoom in and zoom out to see any level  
6 of geography you're interested in.

7           You can go see your individual house,  
8 your neighborhood, you can follow the borders that  
9 make up these districts, so you can see what streets  
10 they run along.

11           By clicking on some of the buttons on the  
12 left, you can turn the shading on and off, the  
13 county lines on and off, and really kind of drill  
14 down and understand the maps better.

15           So here is an example of a zoom in.  
16 Again, it's kind of hard to see. I apologize for  
17 that, but you can go all the way down to the house  
18 level and see, you know, the street you live on.

19           So I would encourage anybody who is  
20 interested to explore that option.

21           Finally, we would like you to stay  
22 connected with the Commission and hear more about  
23 what it's doing as this process goes along.

24           Again, the website is  
25 [www.azredistricting.org](http://www.azredistricting.org). On the website you can

1 draw your own maps. There's an online mapping tool  
2 where you adjust these grid maps yourself, adjust  
3 these draft maps. You can watch the current  
4 meetings or the past meetings and you can get  
5 updates on future meetings.

6 You can follow us on Twitter at #AIRC or  
7 friend us on Facebook.

8 So thank you all for being here today.  
9 Feel free to come up and ask me any questions you  
10 have after the meeting. I would be more than happy  
11 to answer them or try to help find an answer for  
12 you.

13 Also, feel free to use the staff here as  
14 a resource. They are very knowledgeable and can  
15 help you in a lot of ways.

16 So thank you again for coming today. We  
17 very much so look forward to hearing what you have  
18 to say.

19 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you,  
20 Mr. Desmond.

21 As Mr. Desmond had mentioned, the purpose  
22 of these hearings is to find out what you're looking  
23 for in the maps, what areas you don't like, what did  
24 you like and give us some detailed modifications and  
25 how these changes will affect your communities of



1 interest. So that's the purpose of these meetings.

2 I'm not here to answer questions but to  
3 listen to you and your concerns.

4 Again, there's three minutes for each  
5 speaker. I ask that you be respectful of each  
6 individual, whether you agree or not agree with the  
7 comments, let's be respectful of every individual  
8 that is here today. They took the time to be here.  
9 So again, let's be respectful.

10 Then we'll be starting now, so I'll give  
11 three minutes and Buck will be taking time. And our  
12 first speaker is Diane -- and if I mispronounce your  
13 name, I apologize in advance, so do correct me when  
14 you step up to the podium.

15 And again, spell your first name and last  
16 name. Tell us who you are representing and the city  
17 or town that you are from.

18 The first speaker will be Diane Joens,  
19 she's the mayor of the city of Cottonwood.

20 DIANE JOENS: Thank you.

21 Diane, D-i-a-n-e, Joens, J-o-e-n-s, and  
22 I'm the mayor of the city of Cottonwood.

23 I would first like to welcome everyone  
24 here today. People from the Verde Valley live in  
25 one of the most beautiful places on earth and they

1 get pretty passionate about their place.

2           So thank you for being here to listen,  
3 Vice Chair Herrera, and other members of the  
4 Commission who are on web TV today.

5           Thank you for allowing me this  
6 opportunity to speak. I am the mayor of Cottonwood,  
7 and I am elected to a nonpartisan position in  
8 service to the people.

9           I represent the citizens of Cottonwood,  
10 whether they are Democrats, Republicans,  
11 Independents or any other registered party.

12           When someone calls for the fire  
13 department or the police department, they don't want  
14 to be asked what party they are, they just want  
15 service.

16           I represent people who work and couldn't  
17 be here today; moms who stayed home with their kids  
18 today and elders who just couldn't be here because  
19 of health challenges.

20           The city -- the Cottonwood City Council  
21 has agreed that Yavapai County communities, both  
22 incorporated and unincorporated, are communities of  
23 interest and should be together as one district when  
24 the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission  
25 finalizes its maps. This includes all communities

1 of the Verde Valley.

2 Our communities constitute communities of  
3 interest based on our rural economies, tourism, and  
4 environmental interests, and our day-to-day  
5 interests such as fighting drugs and crime through  
6 MapForce.

7 Our Verde Valley and Prescott area Public  
8 Safety Department works hand-in-hand with our SWAT  
9 team and PANT. We have been all working together  
10 for years on the Yavapai County Water Advisory  
11 Committee, and I believe our communities must stay  
12 together as we seek to ensure future water supplies.

13 What Prescott area communities do with  
14 water decisions impacts the Verde Valley and vice  
15 versa. We need to sit at the table together to make  
16 these important decisions.

17 In fact, our water decisions are  
18 extremely important even to Phoenix area residents  
19 because one-third of Phoenix area's water supply  
20 comes from the Verde River.

21 The Phoenix area does not get their water  
22 from the upper Coconino plateau, it comes from  
23 Yavapai County.

24 We have two Indian tribes in Yavapai  
25 County, the Yavapai Apache Nation and the Navajo

1 Prescott Indian Tribe. Our tribes are connected  
2 with the Prescott area and not the Flagstaff area.

3 Our Yavapai County school superintendent  
4 is in Prescott, not Flagstaff. We are closely tied  
5 as a county with our children's education.

6 Our community health services and mental  
7 health services are intricately tied with Prescott.

8 Many of our nonprofit service agencies  
9 are very much connected in Yavapai County, and these  
10 communities of interest are important to our  
11 citizens' day-to-day lives.

12 We have a close connection with other  
13 communities in Yavapai County. We get along great  
14 with the Flagstaff area through the Greater Arizona  
15 Mayors, our hospitals are connected, but our  
16 day-to-day lives are connected with Yavapai County  
17 as a whole, and we would like you to consider  
18 putting Yavapai County in one district.

19 Thank you.

20 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

21 If you could just do me a favor, if those  
22 that have cell phones, if you could shut them off, I  
23 would appreciate that. Put them on vibrate or  
24 silent.

25 Thank you.

1 Our next speaker is Richard --

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Malik?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Searle?

4 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: No, Richard Dehnert,  
5 vice mayor of Clarkdale.

6 Am I not pronouncing it correctly?

7 RICHARD DEHNERT: Thank you, Mr. Vice  
8 Chairman.

9 My name is Richard Dehnert, spelled  
10 R-i-c-h-a-r-d, D-e-h-n-e-r-t.

11 I'm vice mayor of Clarkdale, and I'm here  
12 today to read a statement from Mayor Doug Von Gausig  
13 of the town of Clarkdale.

14 Madame Chair -- or rather remaining  
15 members of the committee -- please let me extend my  
16 thanks and respect for the public service you and  
17 your Commission have undertaken for citizens of  
18 Arizona.

19 Yours may be the most difficult and least  
20 understood and is certainly the most thankless of  
21 all in politics.

22 Any redistricting effort brings out  
23 extremes of partisan and bickering, second-guessing  
24 and demagoguing, and your project is, unfortunately,  
25 no different.

1 I'm grateful to you for volunteering to  
2 take on this most difficult of assignments.

3 The town of Clarkdale has followed your  
4 progress since inception through various maps and  
5 many trial solutions to meeting difficult and  
6 sometimes conflicting criteria.

7 We understand the seeming impossibility  
8 of fitting competitiveness, compactness, political  
9 boundaries, communities of interest, and voting  
10 rights into a single district map, a map that cannot  
11 possibly please all of the stakeholders when your  
12 job is done.

13 This understanding is why we have no  
14 critique of your actions and we will offer only a  
15 few suggestions that could help our community in the  
16 future.

17 The town of Clarkdale sits in a small  
18 extension of the proposed legislative District 6  
19 along with the majority of the Verde Valley.

20 The lines as currently proposed will  
21 include the entire current incorporated area of  
22 Clarkdale but they do not include the areas  
23 identified in our community plan as our future  
24 growth area.

25 We would like you to consider a minor

1 redraw of that map -- of the LD map to include this  
2 growth area, thereby keeping our entire town in one  
3 district.

4           This should not be problematic since only  
5 a few residents reside in the expanded area. Our  
6 community development department will provide you  
7 with a map of our growth area so that this can be  
8 corrected.

9           It is clear to the residents of Clarkdale  
10 that all of the Verde Valley's communities both  
11 incorporated and not, comprise a single community of  
12 interest.

13           We shop in the same stores, re-create in  
14 the same parks and along the Verde River.

15           We attend regional meetings together,  
16 have school rivalries and common economic  
17 development goals and are interdependent on the same  
18 regional economy.

19           For these reasons we ask that you make  
20 every attempt to keep the entire Verde Valley in the  
21 same legislative and congressional districts.

22           By this we mean keeping the entire city  
23 of Sedona in one district along with the  
24 incorporated municipalities of Camp Verde,  
25 Cottonwood, Clarkdale, and Jerome, and the

1 unincorporated communities of Big Park, Village of  
2 Oak Creek, Oak Creek, Lake Montezuma, Rimrock,  
3 Cornville, Page Springs, and the Verde Villages.

4 As I said, we understand the difficult  
5 and complex nature of your task and request that you  
6 take the foregoing comments as constructive ideas  
7 that will help the town of Clarkdale and the Verde  
8 Valley continue to grow and thrive in the future.

9 Thank you.

10 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

11 Our next speaker is Mike Ward, Sedona  
12 city council.

13 MIKE WARD: Thank you, vice chair.

14 I'm Mike Ward, M-i-k-e, W-a-r-d.

15 I'm a resident of Sedona. I am speaking  
16 on behalf of myself, but I am also a member of the  
17 city of Sedona --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak up.

19 MIKE WARD: I'm also a member of the city  
20 of Sedona council.

21 I would just like to echo what was just  
22 read. I would like to see Sedona retained in the  
23 Verde Valley. We are closely allied and we identify  
24 ourselves with the Verde Valley and we would like  
25 for that to happen for both the congressional and



1 the legislative redistricting.

2 I won't take up any further time, as the  
3 gentleman that spoke before me did an eloquent job  
4 of making my comments.

5 Thank you.

6 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

7 Our next speaker is Roni Jelm, J-e-l-m,  
8 resident of Sedona.

9 RONI JELM: Thank you.

10 First, I would like to say that I was  
11 shocked and dismayed by the actions of Governor  
12 Brewer's recent action regarding the chairman of  
13 this so-called Independent Commission.

14 I believe it is and should be an  
15 independent commission, and it's actions like this  
16 that have people demonstrating all over our country.

17 In regard to the actions of this  
18 committee, I think that you've done a wonderful job  
19 and I would like to -- I'm a resident of Sedona. I  
20 would like to see Sedona and the Village of Oak  
21 Creek stay all in CD 1 with people of like interests  
22 and included in with Flagstaff. But that would also  
23 include Sedona, Village of Oak Creek, and some of  
24 the outlying areas that aren't in the incorporated  
25 town of Sedona, but people who consider themselves

1 to be citizens of Sedona.

2 Thank you.

3 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Rob Adams, mayor of  
5 the city of Sedona.

6 ROB ADAMS: Good morning.

7 My name is Rob Adams, R-o-b, A-d-a-m-s.

8 I am the mayor of the city of Sedona.

9 I first want to acknowledge what a tough  
10 position you folks are in on the Redistricting  
11 Commission.

12 However, most of us that have been in  
13 public service have been in at least similar types  
14 of positions in the past. And essentially what you  
15 have to do is make your decisions based on what is  
16 for the greater good. And I'm sure that that will  
17 be eventually the outcome here.

18 I'm speaking on behalf of the Sedona City  
19 Council as well as the citizens of Sedona.

20 The city of Sedona supports a legislative  
21 and congressional redistricting outcome that first  
22 and foremost keeps the city of Sedona intact and  
23 does not split the city by county lines.

24 The city also values an outcome that  
25 creates a district that includes both the cities of

1 Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek and that  
2 maintains the Verde Valley communities of Sedona,  
3 Cottonwood, Camp Verde, Jerome, and Clarkdale, along  
4 with the incorporated communities within the same  
5 district.

6           The city of Sedona also recognizes the  
7 Greater Arizona Success legislative district  
8 proposal 3 meets these values and also combines  
9 other communities that share similar and common  
10 interests related to economy, transportation  
11 systems, health care systems, natural resources  
12 including environmental health, forest health, and  
13 water resources as well as economic development  
14 opportunities and ecotourism.

15           I would also like to point out, and I'm  
16 assuming that the Redistricting Commission has  
17 received this map that has been created by the Rural  
18 Arizona Ad Hoc Eastern Rural Congressional District  
19 Committee that essentially achieves these goals in  
20 the congressional district.

21           It changes the existing maps somewhat  
22 where it keeps the -- all of the Verde Valley intact  
23 in one congressional district as well as it creates  
24 a rural voting district.

25           So I would say from my personal

1 standpoint, I do not have the support of the  
2 council, we have not brought this to council at this  
3 point. We are going to talk about it Tuesday night,  
4 but this particular map seems to achieve all of  
5 those criteria.

6 And we would appreciate it if the  
7 redistricting committee would consider that. I can  
8 leave this map here if you're not sure which one I'm  
9 talking about.

10 Thank you very much for your  
11 consideration.

12 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Suzann Trout from  
14 Cottonwood.

15 SUZANN TROUT: Hello. My name is Suzann  
16 S-u-z-a-n-n, Trout, T-r-o-u-t.

17 I want to thank the Commission for what I  
18 think has been a terrific job. And while I do that,  
19 I would like to cite the AIRC wants us to stay  
20 connected.

21 I in turn would like to see the  
22 Commission remain intact and free from outside  
23 political interference.

24 Thank you.

25 As I said, I live in Cottonwood. I work

1 in Jerome and I would like to see us stay -- keep  
2 the Verde Valley kept intact, just like the  
3 Commission, and together with the district in  
4 Flagstaff. I believe that we have a lot in common  
5 with them just as much as we would Prescott.

6 Thank you again for your wonderful job.

7 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Bill -- and I can't  
9 understand his handwriting. I think it's R-e-g  
10 maybe w-e-n.

11 BILL REGNER: No.

12 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: No? Sorry about  
13 that.

14 BILL REGNER: It's my handwriting, not  
15 your problem.

16 Thank you, Vice Chairman Herrera.

17 My name is Bill Regner, R-e-g-n-e-r.

18 I'm a resident of Clarkdale, and even  
19 though I'm an elected official of Clarkdale, I am  
20 not representing Clarkdale today.

21 Thank you, chairman -- or Vice Chairman  
22 Herrera and to the commissions of the IRC. Thank  
23 you for the difficult job that you are doing and  
24 we're hoping and praying that the end result of your  
25 efforts benefit our state.

1 I think what you're hearing and what you  
2 will continue to hear today is a good example of the  
3 difficulty in determining communities of interest.

4 While I encourage that the Verde Valley  
5 be kept intact, be kept whole in whatever maps you  
6 eventually adopt, I think some today are going to  
7 see that their community of interest is with the  
8 other parts of Yavapai County.

9 You're going to hear some people today  
10 say that the -- who live in this area see that their  
11 community of interest is with Flagstaff.

12 I think that every map that you could  
13 possibly create will cause some people's communities  
14 of interest to be intact and others to be divided.

15 Do the best you can there and I know you  
16 are trying to do this.

17 I think competitive districts are a  
18 little more scientific. You have voter registration  
19 to guide you, you have voter turnout to guide you.  
20 Basing districts on competitiveness brings the  
21 independent voter more fully into the process. And  
22 as you know, that portion of registered voters  
23 increases every year.

24 Competitiveness also encourages voting  
25 decisions based on the quality of candidates.

1           Competitiveness also makes campaigns more  
2 about the merits of the issues, more about issues  
3 than ideology.

4           Competitiveness governs to a greater  
5 extent the voting behavior of those who are elected.  
6 They can now vote in ways that support good  
7 governance and good public policy.

8           So I encourage you to strive, whenever  
9 possible, to keep districts competitive for better  
10 districts and for a better state of Arizona.

11           Thank you.

12           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13           Our next speaker is Janice Graham,  
14 resident of Cornville.

15           JANICE GRAHAM: Good morning.

16           My name is Janice Graham, G-r-a-h-a-m. I  
17 am a resident of the unincorporated community of  
18 Cornville.

19           And I would like to commend the  
20 Commission on the work that they have done to keep  
21 things contiguous, competitive, and balanced as far  
22 as population and registered voters.

23           And I would just like to reiterate that I  
24 want this to remain an independent commission, which  
25 is what the voters of Arizona want it to be because

1 the last time we went through redistricting, things  
2 got just a little bit slanted and people decided  
3 that in order to have fairness in redistricting,  
4 that we needed to have a Commission independent of  
5 the state legislature.

6 And so I would like to go on record as  
7 saying I agree with that, and I am thankful that we  
8 have a Commission such as yours.

9 Thank you.

10 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

11 Now, we have two speakers that are  
12 teaming up, Michael William Martin and Steve  
13 Calkins.

14 What we'll do is we'll give both of you a  
15 total of six minutes.

16 MIKE MARTIN: I'm Mike Martin,  
17 M-a-r-t-i-n. If you remember me from Flagstaff, you  
18 may regret giving me more than, but I'll try to be  
19 more succinct.

20 To the Arizona Independent Redistricting  
21 Commission based upon the 2010 national actual  
22 numeration.

23 I represent the Black Bill Park  
24 Neighborhood Association. I'm a director of it.  
25 I'm not speaking on my own behalf.



1           The Black Bill Park Neighborhood  
2 Association is a nonprofit neighborhood association  
3 whose announced purpose is to assist our  
4 neighborhood, restore itself from the damages caused  
5 by the 2010 Schultz fire/flood.

6           The Black Bill Park Neighborhood  
7 Association specifically invites the IRC 2010 to  
8 impartially consider the needs of three entities,  
9 our Schultz fire/flood neighborhood.

10           Two, the needs of our adjacent Flagstaff  
11 city neighbors.

12           And three, the needs of our adjacent  
13 Native American reservation neighbors.

14           While we believe that these three  
15 communities of interest can be -- we believe that  
16 these three stated communities of interest can be  
17 joined in both a single federal congressional  
18 district and a single state legislative district  
19 simply, cleanly and equitably.

20           To that end we offer two preferences.

21           Maricopa -- one, consider Maricopa County  
22 (sic) whole with its population of 134,421 included  
23 intact as the community of interest that it is.

24           This keeps the county, Flagstaff city  
25 reservations in the county, the San Francisco Peaks

1 and the Schultz fire/flood neighborhood all intact  
2 by maintaining Coconino County whole and undivided.

3           The Commission will discover A, a defined  
4 community of interest is supposed to be a willing  
5 neighbor. With 575,000 others, as you may select,  
6 that are in turn disposed to find us a willing  
7 neighbor with them in a federal congressional  
8 district.

9           Second, a defined community of interest  
10 is supposed to be -- it's the same whole county --  
11 willing neighbor with 78,000 others as you may  
12 select that are in turn disposed to find a willing  
13 neighbor with it in a state legislative district.  
14 Just keep us whole.

15           In both such districts, the full array of  
16 societal relationships between Flagstaff city and  
17 the Schultz fire/flood area will be maintained  
18 unbroken.

19           In both such districts, the historical  
20 sacred relationships between the San Francisco Peaks  
21 area and our neighboring reservations will be  
22 maintained, unbroken.

23           Then our second way of doing is it very  
24 narrow -- not narrow-minded, but very limited and we  
25 really hope you can do the first.

1           Maintain the Schultz fire/flood intact in  
2 a district with its intact Flagstaff city.

3           Attached is a Black Bill Park  
4 Neighborhood Association map illustrating this for a  
5 more limited second choice, but it's still a good  
6 choice.

7           Please contact us if you wish that we can  
8 help you.

9           Thank you.

10           STEVE CALKINS: My name is Steve Calkins,  
11 S-t-e-v-e, C-a-l-k-i-n-s.

12           Members of the Commission, I want to  
13 thank you for the opportunity to hear us and hear  
14 our desires.

15           I'm the secretary/treasurer of the Black  
16 Bill Park Neighborhood Association.

17           We came together as a result of the  
18 tragic Schultz fire and flood that took place -- the  
19 fire took place in 2010 and the subsequent floodings  
20 are continuing even to this day.

21           We are presenting to you today a map  
22 which we feel illustrates the city of Flagstaff and  
23 Coconino County's testimony dealing with our  
24 neighborhoods.

25           Typically the county advocated for Doney

1 Park, advocated for Timberline and for Fernwood.

2 The city, at the last meeting in  
3 Flagstaff, advocated for those areas as well as a  
4 half-dozen more subdivisions. And I would like to  
5 read to you the subdivisions that we would like you  
6 to consider keeping the community of interest of  
7 Greater Flagstaff full.

8 They are, starting from the north on 89,  
9 these are flood subdivisions, the communities of  
10 Wupatki Trails; Fernwood; Timberline, both platted  
11 and nonplatted subdivisions; commonly referred to as  
12 Wild Cat lot splits; Hutchison Acres; Mekan Estates;  
13 and then areas of Doney Park that were  
14 inadvertently, we feel, left out including Mount  
15 Eldon Estates, North Peak; Lynnwood; Mountainview  
16 Ranchos, Casanino; and Winona, and we certainly  
17 don't want to -- we don't want to forget Winona, and  
18 I'm not going to break out in song.

19 We feel that this satisfies the desire to  
20 make sure the sacred sites of the tribes are in  
21 District 7.

22 All we're advocating for is the  
23 subdivisions and the infrastructure needed to  
24 contain the runoff and the rebuilding process in  
25 this area, which would include the city of Flagstaff

1 dump, Cinder Lake Landfill, and other  
2 infrastructure.

3 I will leave with you a map.

4 Thank you very much for your time.

5 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

6 Sir, Mr. Calkins, can you give that to  
7 Shane Shields, please?

8 Our next speaker is Sandra Cosentino, a  
9 business owner representing herself.

10 SANDRA COSENTINO: My name is Sandra,  
11 S-a-n-d-r-a, Cosentino, C-o-s-e-n-t-i-n-o.

12 I commend you for placing the city of  
13 Sedona within CD 1, and we request that you also  
14 include the greater area of Village of Oak Creek,  
15 Red Rock Loop Road, Dry Creek Road, and the Sedona  
16 Shadows Community, and this way you're not dividing  
17 our voting precincts and our fire district.

18 And we're very closely aligned to  
19 Flagstaff and the Colorado plateau with regard to  
20 our role as a gateway to tourism in Northern  
21 Arizona.

22 We're also part of the Coconino National  
23 Forest. The whole Verde Valley, if possible without  
24 doing major revisions of your maps, I would like to  
25 see the whole Verde Valley be part of CD 1.

1 I do not want to be drawn into a district  
2 that includes Prescott, even though they are part of  
3 the county seat, they are not part of the natural  
4 community of interest.

5 I disagree with that earlier testimony.  
6 We don't have a seat at the table with regard to  
7 Prescott.

8 So I really appreciate LD 6 as a natural  
9 community of interest. We're all rural communities  
10 along the Mogollon Rim and underneath the rim that  
11 perhaps you should consider also putting Camp Verde  
12 in that so the whole Verde Valley is intact with  
13 been LD 6 as well.

14 But, again, we do not want to be drawn  
15 into a district that would be under the control of  
16 Prescott.

17 Prescott currently holds all three of our  
18 state legislative seats. We never hear from them  
19 here in the Verde Valley. They are not representing  
20 us. The Prescott supervisors also ignore public  
21 input and rob the new supervisor seat for  
22 themselves, now holding four of the five county  
23 supervisor positions.

24 So going by county lines isn't a natural  
25 community of interest for us.

1           And we're also in competition with  
2 Prescott for preserving the flow of the Verde River.  
3 So Chino Valley and Prescott are making decisions  
4 that drastically involve -- affect the health of the  
5 river to our detriment and we have no say. So being  
6 in our own Verde Valley district with the other  
7 Mogollon Rim communities, I think we'll have more of  
8 a say at protecting our natural resources in the  
9 Valley.

10           And I also support making these districts  
11 a little bit more competitive. You have made great  
12 strides from the last map, and I commend you for  
13 that.

14           And I also want to preserve the integrity  
15 of the independent redistricting community free of  
16 the manipulation of the political actions of the  
17 Arizona legislature, that you need to stay  
18 independent.

19           Thank you for all of the hard work.

20           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

21           Our next speaker is Anita Simgen,  
22 paralegal with -- paralegal from the town the  
23 Clarkdale.

24           ANITA SIMGEN: My name is Anita Simgen.

25           I just started.

1           A-n-i-t-a, S-i-m-g-e-n.

2           I agree for the most part with Mayor  
3 Joens and her statements. There are many people in  
4 the Verde Valley who have tried very hard to unify  
5 the people of the entire county of Yavapai in  
6 agreement with issues that are in common with us  
7 all, especially water, other community issues that  
8 we have been trying very hard to work out.

9           So it would be helpful to us all, the way  
10 your legislative and congressional maps divide us,  
11 it causes even more of an us-against-them ideology  
12 and negates the efforts that we have all made to  
13 make Yavapai a unified community.

14           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

15           Our next speaker is Terry Nolan, mayor of  
16 the town of Dewey-Humboldt.

17           TERRY NOLAN: My name is Terry Nolan,  
18 T-e-r-r-y, N-o-l-a-n.

19           And I would like to reiterate Ms. Joens's  
20 comments to keep the county whole. I know you guys  
21 have a very difficult position here. No matter how  
22 it comes out, no one is going to be fully satisfied,  
23 but, you know, the water issue was brought up here  
24 and if you split the districts, there will be more  
25 controversy about the water issues than anything.



1           You know, I'm on the other side of the  
2 hill but we all have communities of interest  
3 involved.

4           As Mayor Joens stated, GAMA, which is the  
5 Greater Arizona Mayors Association, we're all part  
6 of that and we all work together to work and solve  
7 problems for our towns.

8           So with that, just keep everybody in the  
9 county together. It's very important, you know, for  
10 that.

11           Another issue is, you know, Yavapai  
12 County has been District 1 from the start of the  
13 state and we need to maintain that number in that  
14 district for this area.

15           Thank you.

16           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

17           Our next speaker is Richard, I think it's  
18 Mihalik, representing himself from Flagstaff.

19           RICHARD MIHALIK: Good afternoon.

20           My name is Richard Mihalik. Richard,  
21 R-i-c-h-a-r-d, M-i-h-a-l-i-k.

22           I am here speaking for myself as well as  
23 several hundred other people who have signed these  
24 petitions for me to speak for them and also the  
25 former mayor of Flagstaff.

1           In previous meetings, members of -- the  
2 current mayor and a group called the Flagstaff Forty  
3 and a lobbying group have been claiming to speak for  
4 all of us citizens living in the city limits of  
5 Flagstaff. And I am here to repudiate that and tell  
6 you that there are many of us who have never been  
7 contacted, there has never been a forum or a poll  
8 taken. And therefore I think it's very unfair for  
9 the Commission to just hear that they represent us  
10 when, in fact, they respect their own special  
11 interest.

12           Beyond that, let me just make the  
13 following statement.

14           I believe Northern Arizona is heavily  
15 tied to tourism in and around the Grand Canyon. And  
16 as such, we are very different than Maricopa County.

17           While Flagstaff is the largest city in  
18 Northern Arizona, it is still rural and rarely does  
19 have much in common with the urban areas of our  
20 state.

21           We here in Coconino County have much in  
22 common with Yavapai County, Mohave County and other  
23 northern and western communities in Arizona.  
24 Therefore, we should be placed together in a common  
25 congressional district.

1           As an example, Northern Arizona  
2 communities such as Flagstaff, Prescott, Verde  
3 Valley share economic development interests,  
4 transportation, education, forest restoration, water  
5 management, medical and health care interests, and,  
6 of course, tourism.

7           We currently work together on common  
8 legislative issues such as the Greater Arizona  
9 Mayors Association, Northern Arizona Council of  
10 Government, and the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning  
11 Organization.

12           The majority of the forestlands lie  
13 within Northern Arizona, and this is of great  
14 concern for both Coconino and Yavapai counties.

15           Additionally, Grand Canyon National Park  
16 is located within the counties of Mohave and  
17 Coconino and we will be better served by being in  
18 the same congressional district.

19           The business communities believe that  
20 whole counties and whole cities should be placed in  
21 a single district to the extent possible while  
22 following the criteria spelled out in the Arizona  
23 Constitution, the Voting Rights Act and U.S.  
24 Constitution along with all of the laws that govern  
25 the Commission rules.

1           We recognize that the Commission must  
2 follow the law and that you are not above the law.

3           We appreciate your efforts in making sure  
4 that our congressional districts contain communities  
5 of interest, as I have described.

6           Please do not split Yavapai County  
7 arbitrarily to include parts of the Verde Valley  
8 with the eastern rural District CD 1. The Verde  
9 Valley is the link between Yavapai County and  
10 Coconino County.

11           Many of the problems with the draft map  
12 could be resolved by adding the nonreservation  
13 portion of Coconino County into the new CD 4 and  
14 removing an equal population from Pinal County in CD  
15 4 and adding it to CD 1, addressing many of the  
16 concerns of our friends and neighbors in Pinal  
17 County.

18           For example, Florence, Gold Canyon, Queen  
19 Valley, and the San Tan Valley of Pinal County want  
20 to be currently in the drawn CD 1 and the  
21 nonreservation part of Coconino County wants to go  
22 in the currently drawn CD 4. That would be a very  
23 easy swap. That would help create two rural  
24 districts and not make the Commission have to  
25 completely redraw the map.

1           If two rural districts and three border  
2 districts are truly desired by the Commission, this  
3 can be accomplished without putting eastern counties  
4 in Pima County and without putting western counties  
5 in what is urban areas of Maricopa and Pinal  
6 counties.

7           Arizona has more than enough people in  
8 rural parts of the state to deserve a minimum of two  
9 completely rural districts.

10           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

11           RICHARD MIHALIK: I would like to just  
12 add one thing on behalf of the former mayor, he had  
13 sent me two e-mails on his behalf to speak. He  
14 could not be here today.

15           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Sure. Do you want  
16 to leave the information with Mr. Shields?

17           RICHARD MA: Can I?

18           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is  
19 Mel Copen, president of Big Park Regional  
20 Coordinating Council.

21           MEL COPEN: Hi. I am Mel Copen, M-e-l,  
22 C-o-p-e-n.

23           Thank you for this opportunity to  
24 comment.

25           Big Park is a little bit of an unusual

1 location. I took -- very briefly describe what we  
2 are.

3 We are part of the Greater Sedona area  
4 commonly referred to as the Village -- about 6,000  
5 residents, about 50 residential groupings,  
6 homeowners associations, and so forth, a distinct  
7 business district and we straddle Highway 179, which  
8 was Arizona's first all-American highway.

9 We are proud to be residents of Yavapai  
10 County, but in looking at congressional districting,  
11 there is a strong affinity that exists that -- that  
12 goes beyond county lines and it really relates to  
13 our relationship to the city of Sedona and the  
14 surrounding area and of which a portion, of course,  
15 is in Coconino County. So the two counties are very  
16 much involved.

17 And in drawing lines along county  
18 barriers, would, I think, put us at a substantial  
19 disadvantage. It would -- we're more than a  
20 community of interest, we are a community.

21 If you look at what is going on, we have  
22 millions of tourists every year pouring in through  
23 Big Park into the city of Sedona into the  
24 surrounding areas.

25 They travel that 179, that all-American

1 highway. They then go on up to Flagstaff and to the  
2 Grand Canyon. There's another linkage there.

3 But if you take a look at the Greater  
4 Sedona area, we're talking about, for example,  
5 common library system, common fire district, common  
6 school system, many, many organizations that work  
7 transparently through the entire community.

8 Dividing those two areas along county  
9 lines, Coconino and Yavapai, would weaken our  
10 ability to be heard and to have our needs addressed.

11 And so I am just strongly recommending  
12 that as you take a look at what can be done, you try  
13 every effort to keep the city of Sedona, the  
14 surrounding areas and the Greater Sedona area whole.

15 Obviously, being part of the Verde Valley  
16 is important. There are many other factors that you  
17 have to consider, but from our perspective, that one  
18 is really paramount.

19 Thank you.

20 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

21 Our next speaker is Keran O'Brien,  
22 professor representing himself.

23 KERAN O'BRIEN: Mr. Chairman,  
24 distinguished commissioners, ladies and gentlemen,  
25 my name is Keran O'Brien, K-e-r-a-n, capital O,

1 apostrophe capital B-r-i-e-n.

2 I live in the Big Park section of Sedona.

3 I ask you to affirm the proposed map for  
4 District 1 and the corresponding legislative  
5 district with the addition of as much of the Verde  
6 Valley as possible, but at least including all of  
7 the Sedona area, both the city of Sedona and the  
8 adjacent unincorporated areas and the Village.

9 There are three reasons for this. First,  
10 the main northbound route from Phoenix is Interstate  
11 17. It passes through the Verde Valley and on up to  
12 Flagstaff. If one exits I-17 at exit 298, one is in  
13 Sedona. The distance through Sedona to Flagstaff is  
14 actually less than the distance from Exit 298 to  
15 Flagstaff along I-17.

16 Our I-17 goes nowhere near Prescott. No  
17 one goes to Flagstaff through Prescott. The tourist  
18 industry on which both Sedona and Flagstaff areas  
19 rely on typically exits I-17 at Exit 298, passes  
20 through Sedona and then goes on up to Flagstaff to  
21 visit the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, the Hopi  
22 Mesas, and other areas north of here. We represent  
23 a single economic unit.

24 Second, the Black Hills of Arizona  
25 represent a formidable barrier to travel between the



1 Prescott area and the Verde Valley. They refer to  
2 us as "the other side of the mountain." The  
3 Prescott area is geographically, and I might add,  
4 ecologically distinct from the Verde Valley.

5 Third, Northern Arizona University is an  
6 important resource for the area, especially the  
7 Sedona area. We go up there to attend lectures and  
8 hear concerts. Some of the faculty actually live in  
9 the Sedona area. We have no such connection to the  
10 Prescott area.

11 Let me add that we faithfully attend the  
12 Coconino fair held every year during the Labor Day  
13 weekend.

14 Thank you, sir.

15 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is  
16 Dorothy O'Brien.

17 DOROTHY O'BRIEN: Thank you Vice Chair  
18 Herrera.

19 He's a tough act to follow.

20 My name is Dorothy O'Brien. Capital  
21 D-o-r-o-t-h-y, capital O, apostrophe, capital  
22 B-r-i-e-n.

23 I am the immediate past president of Big  
24 Park Regional Coordinating Council. I am the  
25 chairperson for our task force on redistricting, but

1 I am here speaking as citizen Dorothy, just myself.

2 And the first thing I would like to do,  
3 after thanking the commissioners for their really  
4 tireless efforts here, it's much appreciated, is to  
5 thank the men and women who have served our country.  
6 I haven't heard anyone do that yet, and Veterans Day  
7 is approaching us and here we have a room full of  
8 people, many of you have served in the armed  
9 services, and I just want to say thank you.

10 If I may, say I have testified to this  
11 Commission on two other occasions. This will be my  
12 third. So what I would like to say is the  
13 following: Paramount to our -- to me, because I'm  
14 speaking for me personally, is that our Greater  
15 Sedona area be kept intact and that it be kept  
16 intact as one unit as for all of the reasons that  
17 you heard previously spoken.

18 We share so many services and common  
19 interests as well as an economic driver, which is  
20 our tourism. More than 3 million tourists come  
21 through that gateway at 179. It's astonishing.

22 And for most purposes, they are heading  
23 through our community to see the beautiful Red  
24 Rocks, enjoy parts of the Verde Valley, maybe on  
25 through Canyon Railroad and then on up to Grand

1 Canyon or Hopi land and the Navajo lands and so on.

2 And this is paramount. The second part  
3 is that we are in the part of the Verde Valley  
4 community. We feel strongly about this community.

5 But the third part of that is that we are  
6 -- we have demonstrated disregard from our elected  
7 officials that are in the Prescott area.

8 Prescott is considered the hub of that  
9 political base, and we are not, as a community, as a  
10 body, as a community of interest, are not  
11 considered.

12 The things that are important to us  
13 aren't heard, legislation decisions are made and  
14 none of our representatives, other than our own  
15 supervisor, Chip Davis, come into our community to  
16 hear what we have to say to ask our opinions about  
17 things and find out what our concerns and needs are.

18 I would ask you to help us as a community  
19 look at the next ten years. Give us a shot at  
20 having better representation, more equitable  
21 opportunities for our needs to be heard and met.

22 We have many good neighbors in Yavapai  
23 County. No question. But we also have a great  
24 strong history with the Flagstaff area.

25 And I would appeal to you to look at that

1 for us, give us another chance. Please help us make  
2 the next ten years different than these previous ten  
3 years.

4 And with that, I will end my remarks and  
5 say thank you again for your service.

6 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

7 Our next speaker is Mike Cosentino,  
8 representing himself.

9 MIKE COSENTION: Hi. I am Mike  
10 Cosentino, M-i-k-e, C-o-s-e-n-t-i-n-o. No relation  
11 to Sandra. I no longer feel unique in the Verde  
12 Valley.

13 When I moved here in 19- -- just a little  
14 history, I guess -- first of all, what Rob Adams  
15 said, Richard Dehnert and Sandra will cut my speech  
16 real short.

17 Keep the Verde Valley whole, if at all  
18 possible -- whatever lines you have to draw to do  
19 that.

20 I personally wish you had stopped at the  
21 grid and not have applied the other six criteria.  
22 We wouldn't be here today if you had laid the grid  
23 down on population and -- but that's -- I understand  
24 Constitution and things like that.

25 When I moved to Sedona in 1972, we

1 harkened toward Flagstaff. I've lived in Oak Creek  
2 Canyon, lived in Sedona. The students in west --  
3 uptown Sedona went to school in Flagstaff. We did  
4 our shopping in Flagstaff. There was nothing in  
5 Sedona.

6           When I was on the volunteer fire  
7 department in Sedona, everything came through  
8 Flagstaff.

9           Sedona -- it was a surprise to those of  
10 us in Oak Creek Canyon that Sedona actually became  
11 something worthwhile. But yet there it is.

12           My point is whatever decision you have to  
13 make, keep Verde Valley whole, if possible. I  
14 understand that in the current maps that you're  
15 drawing, that may not -- it's not working out, but  
16 if you do have to choose, we want to be part of  
17 Flagstaff.

18           Thank you.

19           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker  
20 representing himself is Richard Searle.

21           RICHARD SEARLE: I only get surly when  
22 I'm mad.

23           But it's Richard Searle, and it's  
24 R-i-c-h-a-r-d, S-e-a-r-l-e.

25           And I have heard many people express

1 similar opinions to mine in regard to Sedona. I'm  
2 representing myself.

3 I appreciate that in your current maps  
4 you do show Sedona, the town of Sedona as being kept  
5 together.

6 There are some things that should be  
7 adjusted. I think that, for instance, West Sedona,  
8 some of the precincts are actually split. So I  
9 think you want to review that. We have ten  
10 precincts in the Greater Sedona area, and I think  
11 you should look at those boundaries. And I think if  
12 you do take those into account, it would include the  
13 Village of Oak Creek. So I think that that would be  
14 something that would be really worthwhile.

15 I also appreciate the fact that we were  
16 split in half between two counties. I guess this is  
17 sort of the case that where the town happened --  
18 they had drawn the lines before the town.

19 But in any case, our general perspective,  
20 my perspective is that as a community of interest,  
21 it's Sedona, Village of Oak Creek, and my personal  
22 feelings and my friends are business-wise,  
23 culturally are to the great extent with Flagstaff.

24 And that's not taking anything away from  
25 the people to the west of us, but I will say that

1 when I first moved to Sedona approximately 30 years  
2 ago, Prescott was over the hill and it was a journey  
3 to get there, and it still is, and we really don't  
4 hear from what's going on over there. And you can  
5 move the boundaries to wherever you want, but they  
6 don't change the way people relate to each other.  
7 It's people themselves.

8           So what I'm advocating is I appreciate  
9 the boundaries you have now as far as CD 1 is  
10 concerned, the congressional district, and I would  
11 like to see those extended a little bit more so that  
12 they do include the Greater Sedona area and that's  
13 really in the Oak Creek Canyon basin area, if you'll  
14 look at that.

15           I think I've probably run through all of  
16 this except to say that I'm also disturbed by the  
17 attempts of politicians to influence the outcome of  
18 the deliberations of this Commission, and I hope  
19 that it all turns out for the better, that your  
20 decisions will not be dictated by the legislature.

21           So thank you for this opportunity.

22           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

23           Our next speaker is, and I hope I'm  
24 pronouncing it correctly, it's either Gary or Eary  
25 LaMaster.

1           GARY LAMASTER: I guess I have got to  
2 work my handwriting.

3           It's Gary LaMaster. And it's G-a-r-t,  
4 L-a, capital M-a-s-t-e-r.

5           I live in Cornville.

6           In the spirit of full disclosure, I am  
7 the president of the Democrats in the Verde Valley  
8 but I'm speaking for myself.

9           As you know, voter registrations in  
10 Arizona were relatively evenly split between  
11 Republicans, Independents, and Democrats.

12           But based on yesterday's allegations by  
13 the governor and the senate, it would appear that  
14 the Republicans are unhappy with the redistricting  
15 maps that will allow them to retain a majority of  
16 congressional representatives and all but guarantee  
17 dominance of 16 of 30 legislative districts.  
18 Instead, it would appear the Republicans feel  
19 entitled to continue the super majority.

20           As a result of yesterday's actions, your  
21 job has been made even more difficult. I feel like  
22 the "I" has been taken out of the IRC.

23           If the primarily goal of redistricting is  
24 to keep communities of interest intact, as Governor  
25 Brewer and Senator Pearce claim, the Verde Valley



1 should remain in the eastern rural district of CD 1.  
2 We have much more in common with the areas to the  
3 north and the east, as many people have said, then  
4 we do with the west.

5           Jerome, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Sedona,  
6 and Flagstaff share an economy based on tourism and  
7 a concern for the environment that attracts our  
8 tourists.

9           The same is true when it comes to  
10 legislative districts. If creating communities of  
11 interest is a goal, the Verde Valley should be  
12 included with Sedona and Flagstaff.

13           The mountains between the Verde Valley  
14 and Prescott are an obvious physical barrier, but  
15 the difference in interests are even more profound.

16           For example, the Verde River that is the  
17 centerpiece of this Valley is in real and constant  
18 threat by political interests on the other side of  
19 the mountain.

20           It appears that politicians in Prescott  
21 and Prescott Valley would rather drain the Big Chino  
22 aquifer that feeds the river than implement sensible  
23 water conservation.

24           Placing the Verde Valley watershed in a  
25 competitive district with the Coconino plateau will

1 help us preserve this valuable resource.

2           Unfortunately for those of us that live  
3 in the Verde Valley, legislative and county offices  
4 have been dominated by the other side of the  
5 mountain.

6           It's time that the Verde Valley enjoy  
7 real representation, including the entire Verde  
8 Valley in the same congressional and legislative  
9 districts as Sedona and Flagstaff will help  
10 accomplish that.

11           Thank you for listening.

12           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13           Our next speaker is Joan McClelland,  
14 representing herself.

15           JOAN MCCLELLAND: Thank you. That's  
16 Joan, J-o-a-n, M-c, capital C-l-e-l-l-a-n-d.

17           Thank you for being here today, vice  
18 chair. We appreciate the opportunity to be able to  
19 come just from the Village of Oak Creek to  
20 Cottonwood and not have to go to Prescott Valley and  
21 all over the place. Thank you so much. You can  
22 tell by the crowd here that a lot of people are very  
23 grateful also.

24           I gave you a copy of this map, and I'll  
25 give it to -- well, you all -- all of the

1 commissioners have got a copy of the map.

2           There are eight voting precincts in the  
3 Yavapai County portion with Sedona, five of the  
4 eight will be split with your present District 1  
5 congressional map. This is really almost  
6 intolerable.

7           That means, for example, the Big Park --  
8 so-called Big Park precinct will have two  
9 congressional districts. This is -- this should be  
10 corrected.

11           The Greater Sedona areas share many  
12 communities of interest. The Greater Sedona area  
13 should be in CD 1 with Flagstaff. The Village of  
14 Oak Creek, which is where I live, Big Park, Village  
15 of Oak Creek, has three precincts and they are  
16 immediately south of the incorporated city of  
17 Sedona.

18           The Village is a southern gateway to the  
19 Red Rock country. A scenic destination for  
20 travelers from all over the United States and  
21 overseas.

22           Some of the most photographed rock  
23 formations are in the so-called Village, Bell Rock,  
24 Cathedral Rock, and Courthouse to name a few.

25           Precincts Red Rock west and Red Rock 2

1 with their Red Rock formation are the gateway for  
2 visitors coming from the west. We were all integral  
3 parts of Sedona.

4 The visitors traveling up Highway I-17  
5 through the Verde Valley are coming to see the Red  
6 Rock country of Sedona and then on to Flagstaff and  
7 the Grand Canyon.

8 The Greater Sedona area should be with  
9 the I-17/Verde Valley corridor communities of camp  
10 Verde, Rimrock, and Lake Montezuma and with  
11 Flagstaff.

12 Thank you.

13 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

14 Our next speaker is Chip Davis, Yavapai  
15 County supervisor.

16 CHIP DAVIS: Howdy.

17 Chip Davis.

18 Welcome to Yavapai County. And I have to  
19 start off with this hard to criticize volunteer, so  
20 I'll try to be very respectful in my comments.

21 We have testified on this before. We've  
22 sent in letters and we've testified over at the  
23 Prescott hearings, and I don't know that any of that  
24 testimony or written submissions made it into the  
25 draft maps because they don't look like what we

1 asked for.

2           You indicated you had a hard time reading  
3 Bill Regner's handwriting and I noted I had a hard  
4 time reading your maps.

5           You know, you guys have had just a hair  
6 of controversy in this whole process. So I'm not  
7 really quite sure where we stand today. I know over  
8 the past week there has been so doggone much  
9 movement going on politically, that it's bound to be  
10 hard to be a volunteer on this thing, but sometimes  
11 I think we get so entwined with things that it gets  
12 confusing. We actually take a simple method and it  
13 turns into a very confusing method.

14           In my observation, we have 15 percent  
15 that are usually far to the left and we have  
16 15 percent that are far to the right, and I think  
17 those are probably 30 percent that you all hear a  
18 lot of, but what I would like to ask you to consider  
19 is the 70 percent of the mainstream citizen that's  
20 out there.

21           Politics is not pretty nor desired or  
22 viewed upon very favorably by most mainstream folks,  
23 and that's because we do politicize it and we take  
24 out the common sense of it.

25           And what I would ask the Redistricting

1 Commission, can you put the common sense back into  
2 it? Let's make it as easy as possible for citizens  
3 to understand what our boundaries are, to understand  
4 that the boundaries make sense, to understand that  
5 our boundaries include our neighbors and our friends  
6 and the communities that we grow up with and we  
7 befriend.

8 I know it's different from metropolitan  
9 areas. Rural communities have one thing in common,  
10 and that is that our strength is in combining our  
11 efforts to accomplish things.

12 And there's been some comments in regards  
13 to the water issues and Yavapai County, and I'll be  
14 the first to admit they have been very controversial  
15 and we haven't had a solution yet, but I would much  
16 rather be sitting at the table with those folks than  
17 not us have there at the table to where decisions  
18 could be made without our input.

19 So I think it's diversity that keeps us  
20 healthy, and I think that it's pretty important that  
21 we sit at that table and we keep an eye on the  
22 things that affect both of us.

23 I think what I've been hearing mostly  
24 from folks, and I know most of the folks that have  
25 been up here today, they are not really doing a

1 Democrat-versus-Republican argument. I think mostly  
2 what everybody is saying is that we want to stick  
3 together as communities. We want to know the kids  
4 we watched in football and growing up, that they are  
5 going to become our elected officials or people that  
6 we know, it's not people from far outlying areas who  
7 have no idea because we're going to end up with  
8 politicians that way. And we would rather elect  
9 people that we know that are going to do good,  
10 honest work for the state of Arizona and for our  
11 communities.

12           And that's the best I can ask you, is  
13 keep it manageable, keep it responsive and let's try  
14 to make it easy for every citizen.

15           Thank you very much.

16           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

17           Our next speaker is Angela LeFevre, and I  
18 know I'm not pronouncing it correctly.

19           ANGELA LEFEVRE: Yes. Good afternoon.

20           My name is Angela, A-n-g-e-l-a, LeFevre,  
21 capital L-e, capital F-e-v-r-e, and I am an American  
22 citizen.

23           So anyway, I'm here -- I had to say that  
24 -- I'm here for myself, though I'm the outgoing  
25 president of the Democrats of the Red Rocks, which

1 not -- is not important from the Democrats's  
2 perspective but for the fact that we are of the Red  
3 Rocks and we cover the whole Red Rock area. So we  
4 have a big club with hundreds of members both from  
5 the Village of Oak Creek and from Sedona. And that  
6 is just one of many clubs that covers the area of  
7 the Greater Sedona.

8           And as everybody else is saying, we are  
9 friends, we work together, we shop together, and we  
10 experience the same things as far as the growing  
11 community is concerned.

12           So I've said this before, and I hope you  
13 all correct those mistakes with our ten precincts  
14 that they all are going to be in a congressional  
15 district together.

16           It wouldn't work to go by county lines  
17 because as people pointed out, part of Sedona is in  
18 Coconino County, part in Yavapai County. So a  
19 decision has to be made which way we're going.

20           I would love to see not just Greater  
21 Sedona but also the Verde Valley being up north with  
22 the Flagstaff area in CD 1, if that were possible,  
23 just as you've been able to do it for the  
24 legislative districts.

25           I feel -- one of the important things and



1 one gentleman brought it out is the competitiveness.

2 Even though I am a registered Democrat, I  
3 also -- our club is open to Independents, and  
4 Independents make such a strong -- make such a  
5 strong voice today.

6 If we are in a competitive district, we  
7 will have a stronger voice. And I think that's  
8 very, very important for us in the Greater Sedona  
9 area.

10 We have strong environmental points of  
11 view, which are very important to us. Right now,  
12 for instance, in the past we were able to put forth  
13 some legislation into congress regarding a national  
14 scenic area, for the area to protect our lands, to  
15 protect our Red Rocks. I think it's important that  
16 we are able to continue doing that and have our say  
17 and that would mean having people who would listen  
18 to us.

19 You know, we get into our local area  
20 issues, but I think our issues are more than that.  
21 They are Arizona issues, they are also national  
22 issues, and I think people in Sedona and the Greater  
23 Sedona area should be able to feel that they have a  
24 national voice on those many, many issues that  
25 impact us, especially environmental ones.

1           So your help here would be wonderful. I  
2 am sorry that your own committee is not intact  
3 anymore. I truthfully -- we appreciate all of the  
4 work you have done and hope you continue and  
5 hopefully will be allowed to maintain your  
6 independence.

7           Thank you.

8           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

9           Our next speaker is Tony, and I'm going  
10 to spell the last name. G-i-o-i-a, former mayor of  
11 Camp Verde.

12           TONY GIOIA: Thank you for not abusing my  
13 name. I really appreciate that.

14           My name is Tony, Gioia, G-i-o-i-a.

15           Good afternoon to the Commission  
16 representatives and to my neighbors. Excuse my  
17 back.

18           I was not prepared to speak today,  
19 however one thing moved me.

20           I've heard and understand that there are  
21 now three concepts for what to do with the Verde  
22 Valley, which is certainly my main concern.

23           And by the way, I'm speaking for myself  
24 although more than a quarter of my life has been  
25 spent in public service as an elected official,

1 today I'm speaking for myself.

2           The Verde Valley citizens are split, from  
3 what I have heard, with the concept of retaining the  
4 Verde Valley as a whole, with separating the Verde  
5 Valley and attaching ourselves to Flagstaff, which  
6 we do have a considerable community of interest  
7 with, and today the concept of both Coconino County  
8 and Yavapai Counties joining in the larger district,  
9 which is intriguing.

10           All three of these possibilities have  
11 advantages and disadvantages. What I am here to  
12 address is not those, but the Verde Valley.

13           The Verde Valley is a family. Has been a  
14 traditional historic family through its growth, and  
15 that -- when I name the Verde Valley, I'm naming the  
16 cities and towns of the Verde Valley, the  
17 communities, the outlying communities, and the  
18 Sedona area and outlying communities, just so  
19 there's no mistaking it.

20           We have several interests, a number of  
21 interests that tie us together besides our  
22 microclimate, our economy, and most importantly the  
23 Verde River watershed.

24           What I will ask you for is to keep the  
25 family together. We may occasionally have

1 differences within the family, but whenever there is  
2 a subject that addresses the survival of the family,  
3 we do come together.

4 Our history shows we've been together and  
5 interdependent, so I would ask you to keep the Verde  
6 Valley, which includes Sedona and surrounding  
7 neighborhoods, together.

8 Thank you very much.

9 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is  
10 Dea Brascgalla, representing herself.

11 Michelle, would you like to take a break  
12 after this?

13 THE COURT REPORTER: Do you have quite a  
14 few left?

15 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: We do. So do you  
16 want to take a quick break?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

19 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: We have a court  
20 reporter. And if she needs a break, we'll take a  
21 break. So we'll take a break after this.

22 DEA BRASGALLA: Good afternoon.

23 My name is Dea Brascgalla. That's D-e-a,  
24 B-r-a-s-g-a-l-l-a.

25 I feel like I must make this statement

1 first. I am appalled by the legislative move to  
2 remove Chairwoman Mathis and to try to disrupt the  
3 work of the Commission.

4 It is the shameful act on the part of the  
5 governor and the Republican legislators to remove  
6 her.

7 That said, I wish to stress again the  
8 fact that Sedona and Greater Sedona, including  
9 Laurel Loop Road and the Shadows and the Village of  
10 Oak Creek continue to be in CD 1 and LD 6. I would  
11 ask that the Verde Valley be included in both.

12 I live in Rimrock but I seldom, if ever,  
13 go to Prescott. I do my shopping, I do my medical  
14 appointments, everything is in Flagstaff.

15 So I think that there is more interest in  
16 Flagstaff for all of these communities and would  
17 make CD 1 and LD 6 more competitive.

18 Thank you for all of your hard work. I  
19 certainly wouldn't want to be on this Commission.

20 Thank you.

21 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Let's take a quick  
22 ten-minute break and we'll be back at around 11:50.  
23 No, 12:50.

24 (A recess was taken from 12:43 p.m. to  
25 1:01 p.m.)

1           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Let's start back at  
2 1:01.

3           Our next speaker is Tom Steele,  
4 representing himself from Prescott Valley.

5           TOM STEELE: It's Tom, traditional  
6 spelling, T-o-m, Steele, S-t-e-e-l-e.

7           And good afternoon. And again, I agree,  
8 that you have a very unenviable position to be in.

9           I would like to remind everybody the word  
10 "gerrymandering" was created by Mr. Elbridge Gerry  
11 who was a Massachusetts politician and created a  
12 political district that looked like a salamander.  
13 And thus the word gerrymandering.

14           Now, whether it was done by a political  
15 party or it's done by a computer program,  
16 gerrymandering is still gerrymandering. It's not  
17 communities of common interest.

18           Yavapai County was the first county  
19 established in Arizona. It's as old as the state  
20 is. It is almost exactly the right population for a  
21 congressional district.

22           We have gone to five supervisors. We may  
23 not always get along, because there is battles in  
24 some areas east and west of Mingus, but we do get  
25 along to the extent that we will allow the Verde

1 River to survive because we are both concerned about  
2 that.

3 As for competitiveness, the population of  
4 Yavapai County has the population of Democrats, the  
5 population of Republicans, and Independents are  
6 really quite close, more surprisingly. And as for  
7 the fact we do have a -- currently have a Republican  
8 congressman, our previous congressman was a  
9 Democrat. So we have competitiveness just anyway  
10 you look at it.

11 So if you have to tinker around the edges  
12 to give us the exact amount of population, I still  
13 want us to retain congressional district 1 for  
14 Yavapai County and some areas that are willing and  
15 able and have common interests to be in with us,  
16 because we deserve that.

17 Thank you.

18 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

19 Our next speaker is James Eaton,  
20 representing himself.

21 JAMES EATON: My name is James Eaton,  
22 J-a-m-e-s, E-a-t-o-n.

23 Thank you for coming. I wish we could  
24 have had the whole Commission here because there  
25 have been very few opportunities face-to-face for

1 people outside Maricopa and Pima counties to address  
2 this Commission. I hope the others are listening.

3 In 1987 and before, Sedona was put  
4 between two counties. Incidentally, I'm chair of  
5 the steering committee for Sedona's new community  
6 plan.

7 I am not representing the committee; I'm  
8 representing myself, but we are trying to get Sedona  
9 people to imagine Sedona 2020 and beyond. You're  
10 doing pretty much the same thing for the state of  
11 Arizona.

12 Sedona was divided between two counties.  
13 Both of them ignored us. So in 1987, we had an  
14 election, overwhelmingly voted to form a city.

15 The city of Sedona is now unified. The  
16 city of Sedona is part of greater Sedona. I don't  
17 have to identify that for you because it's already  
18 done. It's defined by our fire department and our  
19 school district. It includes the Village of Oak  
20 creek and surrounding unincorporated areas.

21 Greater Sedona is part of the greater  
22 Verde Valley. I don't have to define that for you  
23 because it's done by mountains to our west, to our  
24 north, and to our south.

25 The people on the other side of those



1 mountains ignored us, so we took action. We are no  
2 longer split, we are unified.

3 And I just ask you don't try to split  
4 Sedona again.

5 As far as political considerations for  
6 forming legislative and congressional districts,  
7 Arizona has some idiosyncrasies. We have far more  
8 independence than anybody knows because you can't  
9 vote as an Independent in a primary.

10 I would be an Independent today, but I  
11 found much to my surprise I couldn't vote in a  
12 primary, so I had to register as one party or  
13 another.

14 And I think if you pay too much attention  
15 to political divisions, you're going to be making a  
16 big mistake in this state. Try to balance  
17 everything, not just a little political  
18 considerations.

19 Thank you.

20 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker  
21 representing himself is Jim Muhr.

22 JIM MUHR: Thank you, commissioner, I  
23 appreciate that.

24 My name is Jim Muhr, M-u-h-r. I reside  
25 in Payson, Arizona, and I'm representing myself.

1 I would like to say that the  
2 congressional districts as drawn do not represent  
3 what is good for the state of Arizona and  
4 specifically for Gila County.

5 We in Payson, Arizona, are the gateway to  
6 the rim country. People come up the Beeline Highway  
7 to go to the rim country, to go into Pine,  
8 Strawberry, Show Low, up into the areas of Woods  
9 Canyon and stuff like that.

10 The way you have the district drawn, you  
11 have us in District Number 4, which is included with  
12 the desert and the river area along the Colorado  
13 River.

14 It makes no sense for Gila County or for  
15 Payson to be in a district other than the mountain  
16 districts. And I would respectfully ask that you  
17 seriously consider moving Payson in with the  
18 mountain districts.

19 The second thing I would like to address  
20 is the legislative lines that you have drawn.

21 The legislative lines that you have drawn  
22 now represent Gila County split into three different  
23 sections.

24 Think about someone working in the county  
25 trying to be on a Commission and trying to work with

1 three different sets of legislatures trying to get  
2 something accomplished in that county. It's almost  
3 impossible to do.

4 I would ask that you seriously consider  
5 looking at the legislative districts, that the way  
6 they are drawn in Gila County, and make us whole, or  
7 at least -- at least give us two districts rather  
8 than the three that it has now. It would be an  
9 unbearable situation for anybody to try to get  
10 anything done with three legislative districts as  
11 they are.

12 Thank you.

13 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

14 Our next speaker is L. Thomas Spencer,  
15 representing himself from Payson.

16 THOMAS SPENCER: Thank you, commissioner.

17 My name is Thomas Spencer, T-h-o-m-a-s,  
18 S-p-e-n-c-e-r, and I am here today representing  
19 myself.

20 I live in Payson, Arizona.

21 It is of my opinion that the Commission  
22 has failed to take into consideration communities of  
23 interest.

24 Payson, Arizona, is the gateway to the  
25 rim country; however, at present, your map has taken

1 Payson and its community of interest, i.e., gateway  
2 to the rim country, mountain communities, and placed  
3 it in the desert Colorado River communities, totally  
4 void of the rim communities.

5 This totally goes against the communities  
6 of interest and it is also the requirement as stated  
7 in the state Constitution.

8 I encourage the Commission to reevaluate  
9 and take into consideration Gila County and the rim  
10 country as a whole and make it whole.

11 Thank you very much.

12 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13 Our next speaker is Matthew Capalby,  
14 representing the Greater Arizona Success.

15 MATTHEW CAPALBY: Vice Chairman Herrera,  
16 thank you for being here today.

17 My name is Matthew Capalby C-a-p-a-l-b-y,  
18 and I reside in Flagstaff, Arizona.

19 First of all, I want to thank you in  
20 light of yesterday's circumstances for being here  
21 today. There was a lot of concern whether or not  
22 the meeting would occur, and I certainly appreciate  
23 all of your efforts.

24 On behalf of the Arizona Success, I would  
25 like to thank you for increasing the numbers of

1 rural legislative districts from eight to nine and  
2 also that you did consider increasing the number of  
3 congressional districts that represent Greater  
4 Arizona from one to two.

5           While there are, of course, some  
6 adjustments that we all believe need to be made, we  
7 thank you for those and we also request that you  
8 take into further consideration the issue of  
9 competitive districts.

10           We feel that there is still some  
11 opportunities to create more competitive districts.  
12 And when that does happen, you have better  
13 representation and you have more voters engaged  
14 overall because races are not decided in the  
15 primaries.

16           With that, I would also like to speak to  
17 my former role as the regional director for Northern  
18 Arizona and the Arizona Department of Environmental  
19 Quality.

20           Sorry if I said that too fast. That's a  
21 mouthful.

22           But with that, I would like to speak to  
23 particular water issues here in the Verde Valley in  
24 the Verde River watershed.

25           I do think it is important that all of

1 the Verde Valley communities are united in one  
2 legislative and one congressional district,  
3 preferably a competitive district, because when you  
4 have a competitive district, you get additional  
5 resources that will come forth from both sides of  
6 the aisle and better cooperation that will serve the  
7 environmental water interests relating to the Verde  
8 River.

9           While the Big Chino is the headwater for  
10 the Verde, it is also felt -- and it is also fed by  
11 Oak Creek, Fossil Creek, Beaver creek, et cetera.  
12 So there is a direct relation to the Coconino  
13 plateau, unlike some previous testimony that there  
14 are very close water ties to the Flagstaff and  
15 Mogollon Rim to the east as far as the Verde River  
16 watershed is concerned.

17           And with that, I think it's imperative  
18 that the Verde River watershed end up in a  
19 competitive congressional and legislative district.  
20 You're going to double the amount of representation  
21 in Yavapai County for those water issues, which I  
22 also think is important.

23           It's best to have two congressional  
24 members and two sets of legislators that will be  
25 concerned with issues pertaining to the Verde River

1 rather than just one set that's dominated by one  
2 partisan interest.

3           So with that, thank you very much.  
4 Continue the good fight and on behalf of the people  
5 of Greater Arizona and myself being a  
6 third-generation native of Northern Arizona, I am  
7 ashamed by the actions of our governor and our state  
8 legislature in regards to this Independent  
9 Commission because it's counter to the interests of  
10 the people of Arizona.

11           So thank you.

12           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

13           Our next speaker is Laramer Mace,  
14 representing himself from Prescott.

15           LARAMER MACE: Thank you. My name is  
16 Laramer Mace, L-a-r-a-m-e-r, last name, M-a-c-e  
17 alarm L A R A M ER.

18           Unlike the previous gentleman, I do not  
19 believe that the Commission has been doing the job  
20 that it should be doing. Frankly, the very concept  
21 of an Independent Commission is about as likely as a  
22 temporary tax.

23           Yavapai County is known as the mother of  
24 counties. Many people do not realize that Coconino  
25 County was once a part of Yavapai County and was

1 split away. I personally would welcome the  
2 recombination of Yavapai and Coconino County into a  
3 single congressional district, which would include  
4 the nonreservation portion of Coconino, Yavapai,  
5 Mohave, La Paz, and Yuma.

6 This also would meet the desire of many  
7 of the people in the Verde Valley with wanting to be  
8 part of the Flagstaff area because now Yavapai and  
9 the Flagstaff area were placed in a single CD and  
10 would include all of Sedona, answering many of the  
11 problems that people are having with the current  
12 maps.

13 As for a legislative district, I propose  
14 having all of Yavapai County as a single legislative  
15 district which could include the Coconino portions  
16 of Sedona within that district and still meet the  
17 population requirement.

18 While we're on the subject of LDs, if the  
19 people would look closely, the ones who are  
20 concerned with being part of Flagstaff, the current  
21 map, LD 6, does not include Flagstaff with the Verde  
22 Valley. So you're not gaining anything by going  
23 with that.

24 And while we're still on the subject, I  
25 would like to remind people that Governor Brewer



1 acted within the confines of the state Constitution  
2 when it became apparent that the current maps did  
3 not meet the desires of the people of Arizona.

4 Thank you.

5 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Catherine Adams,  
7 representing herself from Yavapai County.

8 No Catherine Adams.

9 Our next speaker is Bob Burke,  
10 representing himself.

11 BOB BURKE: Thank you, Vice Chairman  
12 Herrera.

13 It's Bob, B-o-b, B-u-r-k-e, Burke.

14 First of all, I want to say thank you for  
15 coming to the Verde Valley. When I first saw your  
16 schedules, I didn't notice anything scheduled for  
17 the Verde, but very happy that you came. You're  
18 very welcome here.

19 I, too, as many people have stated, was  
20 very distressed by the illegal action of the  
21 governor removing Chairwoman Mathis from the  
22 position of chairwoman for the Commission.

23 Well, once again, many of us are in a  
24 room talking about redistricting. Two out of three  
25 of the board of supervisors from Yavapai County got

1 it wrong when they redistricted Yavapai County. I'm  
2 just happy that they can't vote on this  
3 redistricting.

4 I want to say that there are many people  
5 in the Verde Valley throughout the state of Arizona  
6 that do support the Herculean task with which you  
7 have been given your charge.

8 I think placing the Verde Valley in CD 1  
9 helps to give balance to the district, or as we've  
10 been calling it up here, competitiveness.

11 A balanced district reduces the possibly  
12 of extremism. It gives either party a fair shot at  
13 representing the citizens of that district.

14 And we have many issues that are more in  
15 common with the eastern region, our northern  
16 neighbors, Flagstaff, Coconino County, than with  
17 Prescott.

18 Water issues are important, environmental  
19 issues are important, forest issues are very  
20 important. And I do not believe that becoming part  
21 of District 1 in the eastern region will suffer the  
22 Verde Valley in dialog with Prescott.

23 I think issues that affect Prescott and  
24 the Verde Valley can be addressed. Any issues that  
25 have -- that are mutually in common with those areas

1 will be addressed.

2           The only improvement I could suggest  
3 would be to put the Village back in with Sedona, as  
4 has been discussed, and keep the Verde Valley,  
5 Sedona, and the surrounding areas intact.

6           I think -- in another byproduct of this  
7 redistricting might be to bring the Verde Valley  
8 closer and have the leaders establish more dialog to  
9 face some of the issues that we all have in common.

10           Thank you.

11           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

12           Our next speaker is David L. Murphy from  
13 Clarkdale.

14           DAVID L. MURPHY: My name is David L.  
15 Murphy, D-a-v-i-d, middle initial L., M-u-r-p-h-y.

16           I wasn't going to say anything, but after  
17 looking at the map real close and the community of  
18 interest issue and everything else, I just wondered  
19 if anyone could tell me what Clarkdale has in common  
20 with Scottsdale? I'm at a loss.

21           And so, you know, it appears to me  
22 looking at this Commission-approved congressional  
23 draft map that here again it just puts more power  
24 down in the Phoenix area because Lake Havasu,  
25 Bullhead City, anyone that's out in those

1 communities will have no community of -- Prescott  
2 Valley or Prescott or Clarkdale will have no idea  
3 who their people are putting forward for positions  
4 in authority and such.

5 And there's quite a bit of money, I  
6 think, down in the Scottsdale area and I think  
7 they'll have real slick fliers and everything.

8 And so just give more power to the  
9 Phoenix area and take any voice in rural Arizona  
10 away from rural Arizona. And that's my input.

11 Thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13 We have Harry Oberg, representing himself  
14 from Yavapai County.

15 Is that you?

16 HARRY OBERG: My name is Harry Oberg, and  
17 I'm representing myself.

18 Ha-r-r-y, O-b-e-r-g.

19 Thank you for this opportunity to talk to  
20 you this afternoon and for you to come up here into  
21 Yavapai County and give us this opportunity.

22 I would like to give a little history  
23 first.

24 My dad came to this country in '29, to  
25 the state and resided in Coconino -- or correction,

1 Yavapai County and spent his entire time in Yavapai  
2 County. Even though he was other places in the  
3 state, he always felt that Yavapai County was one  
4 large community of interest. And for that reason,  
5 he felt no reason to leave it or live anywhere else  
6 or work anywhere else.

7 He was a cattle pusher. He worked  
8 ranches from Sedona to Perkinsville, Chino Valley,  
9 Prescott. He also at times was a minor, working in  
10 the Bagdad mine.

11 So I think with my history here of  
12 graduating from high school here, that I bring to  
13 this discussion a little bit about what the  
14 long-time residents of Arizona feel about Arizona  
15 and Yavapai County.

16 Looking at your two maps, the CD and the  
17 LD maps, one of your goals is to respect communities  
18 of interest. All of the communities of Yavapai  
19 County, Sedona, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Verde  
20 Valley, and Seligman, to name just a few, all have  
21 common interests and goals.

22 These communities are rural, engage in  
23 agriculture, ranching and mining, and have similar  
24 issues related to water based on our common  
25 geography.

1           As a result, Yavapai County should be  
2 kept whole and not have any portion of the county  
3 redistricted to other areas of the state that will  
4 not share its same interest and history.

5           Yavapai County should be kept as a single  
6 district for both legislative and congressional  
7 reasons. Our common -- community of interest will  
8 be best represented when legislative and  
9 congressional representatives who fully understand  
10 the issues and needs concerning our county.

11           In addition, Yavapai County, La Paz,  
12 Mohave, and nonreservation portions of Coconino  
13 counties should be considered one congressional  
14 district with no portion of Maricopa County be  
15 included in that district, either in LD or CD.

16           As people have said here, I don't see  
17 where we have any relationship with a very urban  
18 area such as Phoenix, Scottsdale, whether it's Pinal  
19 County or in Maricopa County.

20           Since Yavapai County is within 2 percent  
21 of the required population to be considered our own  
22 legislative and congressional district, it would be  
23 unfair for any of our communities to be separated  
24 from the county for ten years when it's likely that  
25 we will reach the required population levels in a

1 very short time, maybe one or two years.

2 I know in the Prescott area and the  
3 surrounding area, people continue to be building  
4 homes at a greater rate than we were earlier.

5 So I feel we will reach the population  
6 requirements that we can be our own congressional  
7 district.

8 And again, I would also support a couple  
9 of the other comments here that historically --  
10 Yavapai County is the oldest district. It's based  
11 on the fact that it was the original -- Prescott was  
12 the original capital of this state and I would like  
13 to see CD 1 be a designation that remains in Yavapai  
14 County.

15 Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

17 Our next speaker is Monica A. Joyner,  
18 representing herself from Gila County.

19 MONICA A. JOYNER: Monica A. Joyner,  
20 M-o-n-i-c-a, J-o-y-n-e-r.

21 I attended a Commission meeting that was  
22 held in Payson a while ago. At the time I had  
23 little information regarding the Commission's  
24 origins and goals. I do now, after following the  
25 process, understand that the new redistricting lines

1 drawn for Gila County evidence the malfeasance of  
2 this Commission. That is, the lines were drawn to  
3 ensure that the current political leadership in our  
4 district changes hands.

5           There can be no other explanation for  
6 this as the Commission clearly violates its own  
7 rules on several criteria. Specifically it divides  
8 municipalities, counties, and census tract lines.  
9 It divides rural communities of interest such as  
10 tourism, a big industry for us, and then includes us  
11 into districts where we have no vested interest.

12           As evidenced by Yuma and speaking at  
13 these hearings, they have no community of interest  
14 with us.

15           I mention this because your process has  
16 catered to the criteria of competitiveness while  
17 minimizing criteria regarding geographical  
18 boundaries and other lawfully required criteria.

19           As a result of this division of Gila  
20 County, legislators will most likely be out of touch  
21 with their new constituency due to distance and time  
22 constraints. In effect, it is obvious that the term  
23 local government will no longer apply, and that I  
24 believe is the goal.

25           I am here to tell you today that as Gila



1 County taxpayers, we do not want to pay for illegal  
2 maps drawn by a mapping company illegally employed.  
3 We don't want to pay for lawsuits brought about by  
4 this Commission's unconstitutional conduct. We  
5 don't want any more condescending torts from IRC  
6 commissioners during public hearings.

7 We want a fair and transparent process in  
8 redistricting, which thus far has been absent.

9 In short, I represent the taxpayer, the  
10 unrecognized minority. The people that end up  
11 footing the bill for social welfare programs that  
12 ensure -- that ensue when partisan commissioners  
13 such as this are given power with little oversight.

14 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

15 Next person is Sally Lerette,  
16 representing herself from Prescott.

17 By the look on your face, I didn't  
18 pronounce it correctly.

19 SALLY LERETTE: You did.

20 My name is Sally, that's with a Y,  
21 Lerette, L-e-r-e-t-t-e.

22 Actually smiled because I lived 20 years  
23 here in the Verde Valley and then I moved to  
24 Prescott 18 years ago, so I kind of feel like I'm  
25 from both places.

1           Anyhow, I'm here today to urge you to  
2 keep Yavapai County as one district, legislative  
3 district and congressional district, like the last  
4 gentleman before me talked.

5           Anyhow, going back, I lived on a little  
6 ranch on the Verde River right here in Cottonwood.  
7 And I think it was about 25 years ago a real  
8 terrible flood came and it flooded our ranch, parts  
9 of it. And so the FEMA moved in, the federal  
10 government, and they declared that there would be no  
11 more building on the rivers and the creeks, which  
12 Oak Creek was included in that, of course, and all  
13 of the other major waterways here in Yavapai County.

14           And they also declared that if you owned  
15 a home, which we did, and it burned down, you  
16 couldn't rebuild again. In other words, the value  
17 of all creek- and river-front properties was  
18 terribly devaluated.

19           And it was a horrible outcry through  
20 Yavapai County. In fact, I was with some of the  
21 committee, we called ourselves STOP, S-T-O-P, Stop  
22 Taking Over Our Property, and we went all the way  
23 down, of course, to the state legislature, starting  
24 in Prescott County and then actually, thank God,  
25 Barry Goldwater was still our state Senator at the

1 time and he said, "What the heck is going on down on  
2 the Verde Valley?"

3           Anyhow, we fought back. We had to  
4 compromise some, and there was restrictions on  
5 river-front and creek-front properties and  
6 elevations and such.

7           But the point is, is that we have this  
8 wonderful, common bond as a family unit, the  
9 Prescott, Yavapai County, Verde Valley, Clarkdale,  
10 all of us have this water. This water is our main  
11 interest, too. And the Verde watershed is  
12 throughout these areas, even into Sedona, which they  
13 maybe not want to admit, but they were part of our  
14 Verde watershed.

15           And it's important that we stay together  
16 and that we are like a family. I still think we do.  
17 I love the Verde Valley and I love Prescott area and  
18 I think we're both represented.

19           If you get out and vote, everyone has got  
20 a vote. I only have one. If you don't like it, you  
21 change it, I hope. There's somebody here for  
22 elections and all, but anyhow I think the Verde  
23 needs to be part of Prescott and the rest of Yavapai  
24 County.

25           Like I said before, it's like a divorce.

1 You're tearing us away. We belong to each other.  
2 We have all of these interests. It's very tearing.

3 So thank you very much.

4 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

5 Our next speaker is Karan Pfeifer, vice  
6 mayor of Cottonwood. Thank you for giving a nice  
7 spelling.

8 KAREN PFEIFER: It just makes it easier.

9 Karen Pfeifer, K-a-r-e-n, P-f-e-i-f-e-r.

10 I'm speaking for myself and my family.

11 It's been known here -- I've been told that if you  
12 swing a cat by the tail in this area, you can't miss  
13 one of my family. We've got numerous children here,  
14 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, in-laws from  
15 Sedona to Mayer, Arizona.

16 I lived in Sedona my -- I've been here  
17 for about 40 years now. And my first six and a half  
18 years was in Sedona and then I moved to Cottonwood.

19 I felt no connection whatever with  
20 Flagstaff when I lived in Sedona and I feel no  
21 connection whatsoever with Flagstaff at this point.

22 As for representatives not being -- not  
23 listening, we have had our representatives in  
24 Cottonwood quite often. You need to invite them and  
25 make it to where they are not in session and they

1 will come down and they will talk to you.

2           We don't always get the results that we  
3 want but sometimes, like the mayor said a little bit  
4 earlier, you know, when you get lemons, you make  
5 lemonade. And we've been able to work around a lot  
6 of the differences with Prescott. And our water  
7 issues are similar. I'm part -- the AMWUA water  
8 board and the connection with Flagstaff is much,  
9 much closer than it is -- I mean, with Prescott is  
10 much closer than it is with Flagstaff.

11           So in my opinion, I think that both  
12 districts -- congressional and the legislative needs  
13 to remain rim to rim and keep Yavapai County whole.

14           Thank you.

15           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

16           Our next speaker is Bruce George, Camp  
17 Verde Town Council.

18           BRUCE GEORGE: Good afternoon.

19           My name is Bruce George, B-r-u-c-e,  
20 G-e-o-r-g-e. And I am on the Camp Verde Town  
21 Council, but I can't speak for them, I'm speaking  
22 for myself. And I would just like to echo the  
23 mayors of Cottonwood, Clarkdale, and many of the  
24 others that we need keep the Verde Valley as one  
25 family, one -- so that we can all be neighbors.

1           And I know you've heard this before, but  
2 I guess if enough of us say it, maybe it will have  
3 an impact.

4           But I think on some of the maps, Camp  
5 Verde is being separated from the rest of Verde  
6 Valley. Don't like that at all.

7           So please, don't separate Camp Verde or  
8 the communities east of I-17, McGuireville, Rimrock,  
9 Lake Montezuma. Let's keep the Verde Valley  
10 together. We all have common interests, and thank  
11 you.

12           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13           Our next speaker is John Nevel from  
14 Sedona.

15           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's missing.

16           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: He's not here?

17           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He had to leave.

18           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is  
19 Christine Lutz, representing herself from Yavapai  
20 County.

21           Andy Grosare (phonetic), representing  
22 himself from Yavapai County.

23           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Andy left.

24           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Paul LaBonte,  
25 representing himself from Gila County.

1 Not here.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's coming.

3 PAUL LABONTE: My name is Paul LaBonte.

4 It's spelled P-a-u-l, LaBonte, L-a, capital  
5 B-o-n-t-e, and I want to thank you very much for  
6 letting me speak.

7 What I would like to speak about is the  
8 maps. I believe all of your maps are illegal.  
9 Nothing here pertains to anything.

10 And more, as of yesterday, your  
11 independent person that you had on your board,  
12 Colleen Mathis, I believe it was, she was asked to  
13 step down, to put it politely, and she was found out  
14 to be telling lies about certain things on her  
15 application and who she actually was for. She never  
16 told them that she was leaning left or right or  
17 anything, which come up later that she was leaning  
18 in one direction.

19 And so she may have had a big influence  
20 on the board members without actually the board  
21 members knowing it, and I think that these maps are  
22 all illegal and should be started all over from word  
23 one.

24 And as far as I'm personally concerned,  
25 the board should dismiss themselves because nobody

1 knows how much influence she's had on either side of  
2 the board and it should be a whole new board and a  
3 whole new map system because everything that she has  
4 been part of is illegal, the same as she was and  
5 that's why they let her go.

6 Thank you very much.

7 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

8 Our next speaker is Mike Flannery, from  
9 Yavapai County.

10 MIKE FLANNERY: Thank you and good  
11 afternoon, Vice Chairman Herrera.

12 Mike Flannery, M-i-k-e, F-l-a-n-n-e-r-y.

13 That didn't take along. We must be  
14 getting towards the end. I just put that in.

15 First of all, I want to thank you very  
16 much, Commissioner Herrera. When the initial 25  
17 locations came for the round two public hearings,  
18 Cottonwood was not included on that, and I know that  
19 you worked hard at facilitating this meeting this  
20 morning, and I want to thank you because as you  
21 know, Cottonwood -- or Verde Valley was part of a  
22 lot of discussions as to which way it would go. And  
23 I thought it was important that Verde Valley be  
24 heard, and you have facilitated that and I thank you  
25 very much for that.



1           And secondly, in light of the recent  
2 events, I want to thank you for continuing with the  
3 schedule and not canceling. I think it's important  
4 to get the public input and continue. I know that  
5 you've set a tentative deadline for completion of  
6 this process by Thanksgiving, and I hope that you  
7 can continue that.

8           So let me just comment on the  
9 congressional maps.

10           First of all, I want to commend you for  
11 attempting to come up with two rural congressional  
12 districts. I think that that's very important. You  
13 heard that in various different meetings, and I  
14 think that your work thus far has been challenging  
15 because we know that in order to do that, you need  
16 710,000 people per district. Arizona doesn't have  
17 that. You're going to have to dip into some areas,  
18 and that's where the challenge lies.

19           However, dipping into Maricopa County,  
20 and you've heard this, is not something that anybody  
21 likes.

22           But when you go from a western rural  
23 district and you go completely across the state to  
24 pick up Gila County and the western part of Pinal  
25 County, I liken it to Orion's belt as it travels

1 across the state.

2           So if you could, I would like to have you  
3 look at making -- and you've heard this already  
4 today -- take Gila County and western Pinal County,  
5 move that over into District 1 and take the  
6 nontribal Coconino County western part and move that  
7 over into District 4. I think that helps. That's  
8 an easy solution. I think it keeps everybody in  
9 rural and I think it makes a lot of sense to do  
10 that. And so I would like to have you do that.

11           And in terms of the congressional map, I  
12 would like to -- I would like to have you listen to  
13 the people here today. Keep Verde Valley whole and  
14 in one district, and I would like to encourage you  
15 to keep that in Yavapai County.

16           Let me just wrap it up, because I heard  
17 that.

18           In terms of the legislative map, I would  
19 also echo the same in terms of keeping the Verde  
20 Valley whole and in one legislative district and  
21 that would be in Yavapai County.

22           Thank you.

23           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

24           Our last two speaker are -- the second to  
25 last is Shirley Dye, representing herself from

1 Northern Arizona.

2 SHIRLEY DYE: It's Shirley,  
3 S-h-i-r-l-e-y, Dye, D-y-e.

4 Commissioner Herrera, thank you for being  
5 here and thank you for adding this Cottonwood public  
6 meeting to the listening. I wished I had known it  
7 sooner. We could have gotten more of the Payson  
8 people down here.

9 I wanted to echo the gentleman who just  
10 spoke before us who doesn't know any of us in Gila  
11 County, I don't believe that we would prefer, as far  
12 as the congressional district map goes, that  
13 Northern Gila County be placed in your congressional  
14 district 1 and you could give Flagstaff back over to  
15 Yavapai County and the river counties.

16 We don't have anything in common with  
17 Flagstaff hardly at all. We never get up that way  
18 much.

19 And since they are so entwined together  
20 with the Verde Valley and all, we would find that  
21 that's very -- a very fine thing.

22 We definitely relate more to Eastern  
23 Arizona mountains and forest and would like to be  
24 placed back there with them.

25 One of the reasons I do want to make a

1 comment is the whole reason this District 1 got so  
2 gerrymandered is because you all thought that it  
3 would be a really great idea, or someone impressed  
4 upon you, that the Native Americans all wanted to be  
5 in one district.

6           And I spent a lot of time following our  
7 Gila County redistricting where Bruce Adelson was  
8 our Department of Justice. Many times before our  
9 redistricting ever started, I sat in on all of those  
10 trainings and sat in on all of the trainings and  
11 questioning when we were working with our districts.  
12 And even though I was not on that Commission, I was  
13 very closely entwined and participated in it.

14           The Voting Rights Act says that a  
15 minority-majority is of a separate language and a  
16 separate culture.

17           You have mixed all of these Native  
18 American language groups and cultures into one big  
19 group. And I see no reason why all of the Grand  
20 Canyon area Native Americans should not be over in  
21 District 4 with Yavapai and all of that whole  
22 district, and I don't see why the Salt River -- not  
23 the Salt River, the Gila River Tribe that is south  
24 of Phoenix and off the 10 freeway needs to be in  
25 that district.

1           And then there's all of the other things  
2 that I could and would love to say to you but my  
3 time apparently is up.

4           So I thank you very much.

5           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

6           Our last speaker is Peggy Magee,  
7 representing herself from Cottonwood.

8           PEGGY MAGEE: I'm not from Cottonwood,  
9 I'm from Prescott Valley.

10          My name is Peggy, P-e-g-g-y, Magee,  
11 M-a-g-e-e.

12          May I ask a question?

13          VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Ma'am, this is the  
14 time for to us listen to your concerns.

15          PEGGY MAGEE: All right. Well, it has to  
16 do with my concerns.

17          VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Ma'am, no. We're  
18 just here to listen your concerns.

19          PEGGY MAGEE: Okay. Then I'll make an  
20 assumption.

21          I'm going to assume that the  
22 congressional draft map was approved on October the  
23 3rd. Am I correct? It says so on the map.

24          VICE CHAIR HERRERA: That, ma'am, I can  
25 answer. The congressional draft map was approved

1 actually, yes, on October 3rd, and the legislative  
2 draft map was approved on October 10t.

3 PEGGY MAGEE: Okay. And there's 30 days  
4 for comments. So this should be the last day for  
5 comments on the congressional map.

6 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: No, ma'am. We  
7 approved both of them -- even though they were  
8 approved at separate times, we went in -- the  
9 comment period started on October the 10th. That  
10 was our first day of comment period.

11 PEGGY MAGEE: Okay. Because it says 30  
12 days from the 3rd.

13 Okay. I'm going to talk about the  
14 legislative map.

15 My big concern is what others have  
16 voiced, so this is nothing new.

17 We have got nothing in common with  
18 Maricopa County. Yavapai County is a very rural  
19 district, and I think it should be, especially in  
20 the legislative area, it should be kept intact. We  
21 are only 40,000 people minus what the average is.  
22 And I think if you add in Williams, which is rural,  
23 and take away Maricopa, we would be at our -- what  
24 is to be the average.

25 That's all.

1                   VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

2                   That was our last speaker for the  
3 afternoon.

4                   Thank you guys so much for being here and  
5 for sticking around for this long meeting.

6                   Thank you to the staff for organizing  
7 this.

8                   Thank you for the town of Cottonwood for  
9 providing this great facility.

10                  Again, thank you so much for being here  
11 and have a great day.

12                  We're ending the meeting at 1:47 -- 1:48.

13                  (The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.)

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I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Reporter  
No. 50637 for the State of Arizona, do hereby  
certify that the foregoing 103 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 3rd day of November,  
2011.

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MICHELLE D. ELAM  
Certified Reporter  
Certificate No. 50637