

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
CENTRAL DIVISION**

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE,
PATRICIA BREWER, CAROLYN BRIGGS,
LYNETTE BROWN, MABLE BYNUM, and
VELMA SMITH on behalf of themselves and all
other similarly situated persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOHN THURSTON, in his official capacity as the
Secretary of State of Arkansas,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

Case No. 4:23-cv-00471-DPM-DRS-JM

THREE-JUDGE PANEL

SECOND JOINT STATUS REPORT¹

Pursuant to this Court’s Amended Final Scheduling Order (ECF No. 50), Plaintiffs The Christian Ministerial Alliance, Patricia Brewer, Carolyn Briggs, Lynnette Brown, Mable Bynum, and Velma Smith (collectively, “Plaintiffs”) and Defendant John Thurston, in his official capacity as the Secretary of State of Arkansas, respectfully report on the status of this case as follows:

1. This matter is currently scheduled for a bench trial to commence on March 24, 2025, and the parties anticipate that the trial will take eight to ten days.
2. All discovery is complete.
3. No *Daubert* motions were filed regarding Plaintiffs’ four designated experts and Defendant’s one designated expert.
4. Defendant filed a motion for summary judgment on October 15, 2024.

¹ The parties filed their initial joint status report on September 16, 2024.

5. The deadline for Plaintiffs to file their response to Defendant's motion for summary judgment is November 12, 2024.² The deadline for Defendant to file his reply is November 18, 2024. The motion for summary judgment hearing is currently scheduled for December 2, 2024.
6. The deadline for the parties to exchange deposition designations is November 12, 2024.
7. The parties have not engaged in any settlement discussions.

² Under the Amended Final Scheduling Order, the stated deadline for Plaintiffs' response is November 11, 2024, which is a federal court holiday. The actual deadline is, thus, November 12, 2024.

Dated: October 21, 2024.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Dated: October 21, 2024.

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ATTESTATION

I hereby attest that all signatories listed, and on whose behalf this filing is submitted, concur in its content and have authorized its filing.

Dated: October 21, 2024.

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