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Attorneys for Ben McAdams

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH**

AMELIA POWERS GARDNER, et. al,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DIEDRE
HENDERSON, in her official capacity,

Defendant.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
UTAH, *et. al.*,

Proposed Intervenors.

Case No. 2:26-cv-84-RJS-JCB

**BEN MCADAMS'S DECLARATION IN
SUPPORT OF AMICUS BRIEF OF BEN
MCADAMS IN OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Judge Timothy M. Tymkovich
Judge Robert J. Shelby
Judge Holly L. Teeter
Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett

I, Ben McAdams, under penalty of perjury, hereby testify and declare as follows:

1. I am the interested *Amicus Curiae* in the above-captioned action, and I have personal knowledge of the facts in this declaration. I am over age 18 and a resident of Salt Lake County, Utah. I am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein.

2. This declaration is not offered to advance a personal political interest, but to highlight the practical consequences to voters, volunteers, donors, delegates, and candidates when district boundaries are altered after the election process has begun. Stability in the rules governing elections is essential to public confidence and fair competition.

3. I am a congressional candidate in Utah's First Congressional District. I previously served as a Utah State Senator from 2009 to 2013, Mayor of Salt Lake County from 2013 to 2019, and U.S. Representative for Utah's 4th Congressional District from 2019 to 2021. I am a registered voter.

4. I have remained interested in running for the House of Representatives if a map created an environment for a competitive race where boundaries were not drawn using partisan data that caused cities and counties to be excessively divided among different districts. Accordingly, I was following the state redistricting litigation closely in anticipation of a determination of the map and associated boundaries for the 2026 election cycle.

5. Lieutenant Governor Deidre Henderson set a deadline of November 10, 2025 to have a map in place in anticipation of the 2026 election cycle. Accordingly, on October 16, 2025, I updated my Statement of Candidacy with the Federal Election Commission with the expectation that the State Court Judge would issue a ruling and declare one of two maps operative for the 2026 election cycle, either "Map C" or "Map 1."

6. On November 10, 2025, the State Court Judge approved Map 1 to be used for the 2026 election and Lieutenant Governor Henderson indicated that she would abide by the ruling unless ordered to do otherwise.

7. On November 13, 2025, two days after the State Court's order, I publicly announced my candidacy for Utah's First Congressional District ("CD1") as defined by Map 1.

8. The immediate goal of my campaign is to receive the Democratic Party's nomination for the general election in CD1 as defined by Map 1. Under Utah law and Utah Democratic Party rules, there are two parallel paths for a candidate to qualify for the Democratic primary ballot: (1) collecting the required number of signatures, or (2) receiving more than 40% of the delegate vote at the Utah Democratic Party nominating convention. If a candidate receives 60% or more of the convention vote, that candidate advances as the sole convention-qualified candidate; however, any other candidate who qualifies through signature gathering will also appear on the primary ballot, and a primary may still occur. I therefore pursued both routes—organizing to compete at the convention while also undertaking the signature-gathering effort to qualify for the primary.

9. As a result of my decision to pursue both options to be nominated as the Democratic Party's nominee, my campaign has already expended significant resources.

10. At the end of December 2025, I disclosed that my campaign received \$955,730.21 in donations from thousands of individuals and spent \$206,022.32. The campaign has continued to raise money and spend money since that day.

11. The donors to my campaign donated money with the expectation and belief that the Map 1 boundary for CD1 was established and would remain operative through the 2026 election cycle.

12. My campaign has spent over \$206,000 in expenditures since fundraising began and has continued to spend money to fund the campaign. Specifically, these expenditures have been made upon all the following actions and commitments:

- a. **Qualifying for the primary ballot** by completing the statutory process for collecting all 7,000 required signatures to qualify for the Democratic primary. This required significant investment by securing and coordinating over one hundred volunteers to collect signatures and hiring paid signature gatherers to collect signatures. Although not required, the campaign focused on collecting signatures within CD1 as defined by Map 1.
- b. **Building campaign infrastructure** by hiring six full-time campaign staff members, hiring campaign consultants, and leasing office space within the CD1 boundary as defined by Map 1.
- c. **Building and maintaining voter databases** by purchasing registered voter data of voters within CD1 as defined by Map 1, building voter models (as defined by Map 1) to inform campaign strategy, conducting paid polling research based on voters within CD1 as defined by Map 1, and purchasing other related data services for voters specific to CD1 as defined by Map 1.
- d. **Establishing voter communication materials** by producing professional video content and printing campaign literature and brochures identifying

CD1 as defined by Map 1 as the proper boundary, printing and deploying yard signs throughout CD1 as defined by Map 1 as the proper boundary, and deploying other communications and campaign outreach to voters within CD1 as defined by Map 1.

- e. **Training and recruiting delegates** for the Utah Democratic Party Nominating Convention on April 25, 2026, by surveying and providing in-person training for delegates about once a week. These delegates all reside within the boundaries of CD1 as defined by Map 1.
- f. **Training and recruiting campaign volunteers** by engaging community members and voters who reside within CD1 as defined by Map 1.
- g. **Communicating** with the public via media coverage, social media, and in other capacities to inform the public about my candidacy with the expectation that the CD1 boundary as defined by Map 1 is the proper boundary in the upcoming election.

13. All these expenditures and actions taken to establish infrastructure and organize my campaign were done in reliance that the CD1 boundary as defined by Map 1 would be the final, operative, boundary in the 2026 election.

14. All the voters and individuals involved in donating money or volunteering their time to support my campaign did so in reliance on the current boundaries of CD1 as identified by Map 1.

15. If the boundaries within CD1 were altered then it would require significant restructuring of my campaign's operations and would invalidate substantial investments already

made by my campaign. The expenditures described above are sunk costs. If the boundaries are changed at this stage of the election cycle, my campaign would be required to duplicate data purchases and conduct new polling, revise voter models, retrain staff, and reprint materials. These costs cannot be recouped, and the time lost during the reorganization would materially impair my ability to compete in the 2026 election.

16. Importantly, changing congressional district boundaries after candidates have declared, expended resources, and organized campaigns would create uncertainty and instability not only for my campaign but for voters, volunteers, donors, and other parties who have relied on the operative CD1 boundary as defined by Map 1 if the boundaries were altered.

17. My communications to the public in the media and within the campaign literature I have already created will also cause further confusion for voters if the boundaries were altered because those communications and materials were made in reliance on the current boundaries established in Map 1.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 17th day of February, 2026.

DocuSigned by:
Ben McAdams
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Ben McAdams

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Defendant.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
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Proposed intervenors.

Case No. 2:26-cv-84-RJS-JCB

**LEE DAVIDSON’S DECLARATION IN
SUPPORT OF AMICUS BRIEF OF BEN
MCADAMS IN OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS’ MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Judge Timothy M. Tymkovich
Judge Robert J. Shelby
Judge Holly L. Teeter
Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett

I, Lee Davidson, under penalty of perjury, hereby testify and declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years old and a resident of Salt Lake County, Utah. I reside within the First Congressional District as defined by the court-ordered congressional map issued on November 10, 2025 (“Map 1”).

2. I am a retired journalist. During my career, I served as a Washington, D.C. correspondent for a Utah newspaper. I currently serve as a Democratic Party delegate and intend to serve as a delegate during the 2026 election cycle within Utah’s First Congressional District (“CD1”) as defined by Map 1.

3. After the State Court issued its order establishing the current district boundaries, I began engaging in the 2026 election process under those boundaries.

4. On November 14, 2025, I made a \$50 financial contribution to Ben McAdams’ campaign in support of his candidacy to represent CD1 as established by Map 1.

5. Following the issuance of the new district boundaries, I attended a campaign event held within the district and engaged with other voters who understood that Ben McAdams was running to represent the district as defined by Map 1. During the event, Ben McAdams told voters that he was running for CD1 as defined by Map 1.

6. I also signed a ballot qualification petition supporting Ben McAdams’ candidacy under those same district boundaries.


7. I went door-to-door in my neighborhood to gather signatures from fellow residents. In doing so, I spoke with neighbors and told them that Ben McAdams was running in CD1 as defined by Map 1.

8. As a delegate and resident of the district, my political participation and engagement in this election cycle have proceeded with the understanding that the district boundaries within Map 1 govern the 2026 election.

9. Changing the district boundaries at this stage would create confusion among voters and delegates who have already participated in the electoral process under the current district lines, including those from whom I collected signatures.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 17th day of February, 2026.

Signed by:

31C85C6ED267499...

Lee Davidson

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Proposed intervenors.

Case No. 2:26-cv-84-RJS-JCB

**KAREN CROMPTON'S DECLARATION
IN SUPPORT OF AMICUS BRIEF OF
BEN MCADAMS IN OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Judge Timothy M. Tymkovich
Judge Robert J. Shelby
Judge Holly L. Teeter
Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett

I, Karen Crompton, under penalty of perjury, hereby testify and declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years old and a resident of Salt Lake County, Utah. I reside within the First Congressional District (“CD1”) as defined by the court-ordered congressional map issued on November 10, 2025 (“Map 1”).

2. After the State Court issued its order establishing the current district boundaries, I began engaging in the 2026 election process under the boundaries designated by Map 1.

3. On November 13, 2025, I began making monthly recurring financial contributions of \$25 to Ben McAdams’ campaign for the United States House of Representatives in CD1. I continue to make those recurring contributions and do so in support of his candidacy to represent CD1 as established by Map 1.

4. Following the State Court’s issuance of the new district boundaries, I hosted a lunch meeting to introduce Ben McAdams to other voters residing within CD1. Ben and I both told those in attendance that he was running for CD1. So, the voters who attended the lunch meeting understood that he was running to represent the district as defined by Map 1.

5. Beginning in January 2026, I volunteered to assist with signature gathering for Ben McAdams’ ballot qualification. In that role, I collected signatures from friends, neighbors, and other community members who understood that Mr. McAdams was running in CD1 as defined by Map 1. I collected signatures for Ben McAdams’ campaign because he was running in CD1 as defined by Map 1.

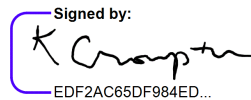
6. I personally signed a ballot qualification petition supporting Ben McAdams’ candidacy under those district boundaries.

7. In making recurring financial contributions, hosting a meet-and-greet, signing the petition, and gathering signatures from others, I relied on the understanding that the court-ordered district boundaries govern the 2026 election cycle.

8. Changing the district boundaries at this stage would cause confusion among voters and volunteers who have already participated in the electoral process under the current district lines, including those who attended the meet-and-greet and those from whom I collected signatures.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 17th day of February, 2026.

Signed by:

EDF2AC65DF984ED...

Karen Crompton

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Case No. 2:26-cv-84-RJS-JCB

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF
DECLARATIONS OF BEN MCADAMS,
LEE DAVIDSON AND KAREN
CROMPTON IN SUPPORT OF AMICUS
CURIAE BRIEF OF BEN MCADAMS IN
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS’
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Judge Timothy M. Tymkovich
Judge Robert J. Shelby
Judge Holly L. Teeter
Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT on the 18th day of February, 2026, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing to be filed electronically via the Court's CM/ECF system, which caused service by electronic mail on all counsel of record.

/s/ Christina M. Jepson