

# EXHIBIT ZZ



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# Transcript of Alonnie L. Ropp

**Date:** January 27, 2017

**Case:** Benisek, et al. -v- Lamone, et al.

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

-----:  
O. JOHN BENISEK, et al., :  
Plaintiffs :  
v. : Case No.  
LINDA H. LAMONE, et al., : 13-cv-3233  
Defendants :  
-----:

Deposition of ALONNIE L. ROPP  
Baltimore, Maryland  
Friday, January 27, 2017  
1:07 p.m.

Job No.: 133652  
Pages 1 - 73  
Reported by: Carla M. Sinclair, RPR, CRR

Conducted on January 27, 2017

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<p>1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT</p> <p>2 FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND</p> <p>3 -----:</p> <p>4 O. JOHN BENISEK, et al., :</p> <p>5 Plaintiffs : </p> <p>6 v. : Case No.</p> <p>7 LINDA H. LAMONE, et al., : 13-cv-3233</p> <p>8 Defendants : </p> <p>9 -----:</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 Deposition of ALONNIE L. ROPP</p> <p>13 Baltimore, Maryland</p> <p>14 Friday, January 27, 2017</p> <p>15 1:07 p.m.</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 Job No.: 133652</p> <p>21 Pages 1 - 73</p> <p>22 Reported by: Carla M. Sinclair, RPR, CRR</p>	<p>1 A P P E A R A N C E S</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS BENISEK, ET AL.:</p> <p>4 E. BRANTLEY WEBB, ESQUIRE</p> <p>5 STEPHEN M. MEDLOCK, ESQUIRE</p> <p>6 MAYER BROWN, LLP</p> <p>7 1999 K Street, N.W.</p> <p>8 Washington, DC 20006-1101</p> <p>9 202-263-3188</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS LAMONE, ET AL.:</p> <p>14 JENNIFER L. KATZ, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY</p> <p>15 GENERAL</p> <p>16 SARAH W. RICE, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL</p> <p>17 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL</p> <p>18 200 St. Paul Place</p> <p>19 Baltimore, Maryland 21202</p> <p>20 410-576-7847</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p>
2	4
<p>1 Deposition of ALONNIE L. ROPP, held at</p> <p>2 the:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL</p> <p>5 200 St. Paul Place</p> <p>6 Baltimore, Maryland 21202</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 Pursuant to agreement, before Carla M.</p> <p>11 Sinclair, Registered Professional Reporter,</p> <p>12 Certified Realtime Reporter, and Notary Public of</p> <p>13 the State of Maryland.</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p>	<p>1 C O N T E N T S</p> <p>2 EXAMINATION OF ALONNIE L. ROPP PAGE</p> <p>3 By Ms. Katz 5</p> <p>4 By Ms. Webb 68</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 E X H I B I T S</p> <p>9 (Attached to the transcript)</p> <p>10 ROPP DEPOSITION EXHIBIT PAGE</p> <p>11 12 Notice of Deposition 5</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p>

5	<p>1 PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2 ALONNIE L. ROPP,</p> <p>3 having first been duly sworn, testified as</p> <p>4 follows:</p> <p>5 MS. KATZ: Good morning or afternoon, I</p> <p>6 should say. I'm Jennifer Katz. I'm an Assistant</p> <p>7 Attorney General with the State of Maryland, and</p> <p>8 I represent the defendants in this case.</p> <p>9 MS. RICE: I'm Sarah Rice. I'm also an</p> <p>10 Assistant Attorney General, and I represent the</p> <p>11 defendants in this case as well.</p> <p>12 MS. WEBB: I'm Brantley Webb from Mayer</p> <p>13 Brown on behalf of the plaintiffs.</p> <p>14 MR. MEDLOCK: Steven Medlock from Mayer</p> <p>15 Brown also on behalf of the plaintiffs.</p> <p>16 EXAMINATION BY MS. KATZ:</p> <p>17 Q State please your full name.</p> <p>18 <b>A Alonnie Louise Ropp.</b></p> <p>19 MS. KATZ: Okay. Great. And I'm</p> <p>20 going to -- we are doing this sequentially.</p> <p>21 (Whereupon, Ropp Deposition Exhibit No.</p> <p>22 12, Notice of Deposition, marked.)</p>	7	<p>1 a question to pose a new one. And, again, please</p> <p>2 provide verbal responses.</p> <p>3 If you do not understand a question that</p> <p>4 I ask you, just let me know. If you don't tell</p> <p>5 me that you don't understand a question, I'm</p> <p>6 going to assume that you do understand it. Okay?</p> <p>7 <b>A (Witness nods head.)</b></p> <p>8 Q We are going to try to make it through --</p> <p>9 well, actually, we are going to break at 2</p> <p>10 because Sarah has to step out.</p> <p>11 If you need to use the bathroom or take a</p> <p>12 break before that time, just please let me know.</p> <p>13 We can break at any time. We will find a good</p> <p>14 time to break.</p> <p>15 And then, are you taking any medication</p> <p>16 that may affect your ability to recall events or</p> <p>17 to testify today?</p> <p>18 <b>A No, ma'am.</b></p> <p>19 Q Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>20 So Ms. Ropp, where do you live?</p> <p>21 <b>A I live in Middletown, Maryland. And I</b></p> <p>22 <b>live at 8543 Pete Wiles Road. Based on the</b></p>
6	<p>1 BY MS. KATZ:</p> <p>2 Q Take a look at this document. Do you</p> <p>3 recognize it?</p> <p>4 <b>A Yes, ma'am.</b></p> <p>5 Q Can you tell me what it is?</p> <p>6 <b>A It is the request for me to appear and</b></p> <p>7 <b>provide my oral comments.</b></p> <p>8 Q Okay. Great.</p> <p>9 And you are the person who is represented</p> <p>10 in this notice?</p> <p>11 <b>A Yes, ma'am.</b></p> <p>12 Q Okay. Wonderful.</p> <p>13 Have you ever been deposed before?</p> <p>14 <b>A No, ma'am.</b></p> <p>15 Q Okay. I'm just going to go through a few</p> <p>16 sort of housekeeping rules that will help make</p> <p>17 this go smoothly.</p> <p>18 So because the court reporter is typing</p> <p>19 down everything we say, I'm going to ask that you</p> <p>20 wait until I finish a question to provide an</p> <p>21 answer and that you provide a verbal answer. And</p> <p>22 then I will wait until you are finished answering</p>	8	<p>1 <b>deposition, I did want to point out that the,</b></p> <p>2 <b>request that the address has changed.</b></p> <p>3 Q Okay. So the address on the second</p> <p>4 amended complaint is no longer your, where you</p> <p>5 reside?</p> <p>6 <b>A Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>7 MR. MEDLOCK: I want to make sure the</p> <p>8 record is clear. The address, although on our</p> <p>9 interrogatory responses, is that address.</p> <p>10 MS. KATZ: Okay. Great. Thank you. I'm</p> <p>11 not sure we had these when we did these, but</p> <p>12 thank you for clarifying.</p> <p>13 BY MS. KATZ:</p> <p>14 Q How long have you lived at that address?</p> <p>15 <b>A One year.</b></p> <p>16 Q One year. Okay.</p> <p>17 And we're going to talk in a few minutes</p> <p>18 about where you lived previously.</p> <p>19 How many years of schooling do you have?</p> <p>20 <b>A Can you clarify?</b></p> <p>21 Q What was the last year of school that you</p> <p>22 attended? I assume you graduated from high</p>

9	<p>1 school.</p> <p>2 <b>A Uh-huh. I graduated from high school,</b></p> <p>3 <b>and I completed my Bachelor of Arts, yeah.</b></p> <p>4 Q Where did you go to college?</p> <p>5 <b>A Mount St. Mary's College, it was college</b></p> <p>6 <b>at the time, but University. That is where I</b></p> <p>7 <b>concluded my studies for my Bachelor's degree.</b></p> <p>8 Q Is that here in Maryland?</p> <p>9 <b>A Yes, ma'am.</b></p> <p>10 Q In St. Mary's County?</p> <p>11 <b>A No, actually, in Emmitsburg. Mount St.</b></p> <p>12 <b>Mary's. Then there's a St. Mary's.</b></p> <p>13 Q Okay. Great.</p> <p>14 What kind of work do you do?</p> <p>15 <b>A I work with an insurance company.</b></p> <p>16 Q Which insurance company?</p> <p>17 <b>A It's NASW Assurance Services, and it's a</b></p> <p>18 <b>for-profit entity.</b></p> <p>19 Q And what do you do for them?</p> <p>20 <b>A I'm in underwriting and quality assurance</b></p> <p>21 <b>analyst.</b></p> <p>22 Q How long have you been there?</p>	11
10	<p>1 <b>A If I can point out, I spent two years</b></p> <p>2 <b>with the organization completing in June of 2015,</b></p> <p>3 <b>and I started working with them again May of 2016</b></p> <p>4 <b>to present.</b></p> <p>5 Q And what did you do in between?</p> <p>6 <b>A I was actually caring for my parents who</b></p> <p>7 <b>were ill.</b></p> <p>8 Q Sorry to hear that.</p> <p>9 And what did you do before that?</p> <p>10 <b>A I actually was a stay-at-home mom.</b></p> <p>11 Q How many kids do you have?</p> <p>12 <b>A Two.</b></p> <p>13 Q That's nice. I have three girls, so I</p> <p>14 can relate. Okay. Great.</p> <p>15 Do you recall when you first registered</p> <p>16 to vote?</p> <p>17 <b>A Yes. I registered in 1991.</b></p> <p>18 Q In 1991?</p> <p>19 <b>A Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>20 Q Okay. And how old were you at that time?</p> <p>21 <b>A Twenty, approximately.</b></p> <p>22 Q And where were you living at that time?</p>	12
11	<p>1 <b>A In Frederick, Maryland.</b></p> <p>2 Q Do you recall what congressional district</p> <p>3 that was in?</p> <p>4 <b>A 6 at the time.</b></p> <p>5 Q And do you recall who your congressional</p> <p>6 representative was in 1991?</p> <p>7 <b>A Yes, Roscoe Bartlett.</b></p> <p>8 Q And where in Frederick were you living at</p> <p>9 that time? Do you remember your address from</p> <p>10 1991?</p> <p>11 <b>A Actually, dial back. I'm getting my</b></p> <p>12 <b>years together. That would be an address on</b></p> <p>13 <b>Taney Avenue in Frederick, Maryland.</b></p> <p>14 Q Okay. So from -- when did -- did you</p> <p>15 move out of Frederick since 1991?</p> <p>16 <b>A Briefly. I did move out of the state in</b></p> <p>17 <b>1997.</b></p> <p>18 Q And where did you move to?</p> <p>19 <b>A Pennsylvania. Hanover, Pennsylvania.</b></p> <p>20 Q Isn't that where they make Utz?</p> <p>21 <b>A Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>22 Q And so from years 1991 to 1997, just to</p>	13
12	<p>1 be clear, you lived in Frederick, Maryland?</p> <p>2 <b>A Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>3 Q And do you know if during all of those</p> <p>4 years you were in the 6th congressional district?</p> <p>5 <b>A Yes, ma'am, I was.</b></p> <p>6 Q Okay. And during those years, did you</p> <p>7 vote regularly?</p> <p>8 <b>A No. In my youth, I did not vote</b></p> <p>9 <b>regularly. I tended to miss the gubernatorial</b></p> <p>10 <b>elections in those years.</b></p> <p>11 Q Do you recall if you voted in primary</p> <p>12 elections during those years, 1991 to 1997?</p> <p>13 <b>A Likely not.</b></p> <p>14 Q Do you recall if you would have voted in</p> <p>15 the presidential, the general presidential</p> <p>16 elections during those years, 1991 to 1997?</p> <p>17 <b>A Yes.</b></p> <p>18 Q You think that you did?</p> <p>19 <b>A Uh-huh.</b></p> <p>20 Q Okay. Do you recall if when you voted in</p> <p>21 those general elections you would have also voted</p> <p>22 for your congressional representative?</p>	14

13

1 **A Yes.**  
 2 Q And do you have any recollection of who  
 3 you would have voted for to represent you as your  
 4 congressional representative during that time  
 5 1991 to 1997?  
 6 **A Yes. I would typically select Roscoe**  
 7 **Bartlett.**  
 8 Q So when you say typically, does that mean  
 9 that you think that you voted for him every  
 10 opportunity that you had to vote for him?  
 11 **A I did.**  
 12 Q Okay.  
 13 **A I apologize for the use of the word**  
 14 **typically.**  
 15 Q Don't apologize. It's my job to try to  
 16 clarify if I feel I need clarification on  
 17 something.  
 18 And when did you move back to Maryland  
 19 from Pennsylvania?  
 20 **A 2000.**  
 21 Q And where did you move when you came back  
 22 to Maryland? I'm sorry. What city did you move

14

1 to?  
 2 **A Frederick.**  
 3 Q Frederick. So you moved back to  
 4 Frederick?  
 5 **A Uh-huh.**  
 6 Q And have you lived in -- how long were  
 7 you in Frederick after you moved back in 2000?  
 8 **A I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question?**  
 9 Q How long did you live in Frederick after  
 10 you moved back in 2000?  
 11 **A Two years.**  
 12 Q Do you recall if during those two years  
 13 you would have voted in any election?  
 14 **A In -- oh, goodness. If you will bear**  
 15 **with me one second, one moment.**  
 16 Q Sure.  
 17 **A I remember in particular voting for a**  
 18 **presidential election not long after I returned**  
 19 **to the state.**  
 20 Q Okay.  
 21 **A Yes, ma'am. And I did an absentee ballot**  
 22 **that year.**

15

1 Q So you think that would have been in  
 2 2000?  
 3 **A Uh-huh.**  
 4 Q And when you say it was an absentee  
 5 ballot, do you think you would have voted in  
 6 Pennsylvania?  
 7 **A No.**  
 8 Q Okay.  
 9 **A The reason I provided an absentee ballot**  
 10 **is because I was on business travel on election**  
 11 **day, and I remember specifically going to the**  
 12 **Elections Board to put that in.**  
 13 Q Do you recall in that election you also  
 14 voted for your congressional representative?  
 15 **A Yes.**  
 16 Q Do you recall who you voted for?  
 17 **A Yes, that would have been Roscoe Bartlett**  
 18 **as well.**  
 19 Q I'm sorry. I'm going to take you back in  
 20 time for a moment.  
 21 When you lived in Hanover from 1997 to  
 22 2000, do you know who your congressional

16

1 representative was?  
 2 **A No, ma'am. I don't remember.**  
 3 Q Do you recall if you voted when you lived  
 4 in Pennsylvania?  
 5 **A I did.**  
 6 Q Do you know if you voted -- do you know  
 7 which elections you voted for, in which you voted  
 8 when you lived in Pennsylvania?  
 9 **A I don't remember.**  
 10 Q Do you recall if you voted for your  
 11 congressional representative when you lived in  
 12 Pennsylvania?  
 13 **A I don't remember specifically who I**  
 14 **chose, but I should point out, typically, if you**  
 15 **go to the polls every two years, you are going to**  
 16 **vote for your congressional representative.**  
 17 Q Okay. In 2002, where did you move?  
 18 **A Middletown, Maryland.**  
 19 Q I'm not very familiar with Middletown.  
 20 What county is that in?  
 21 **A Frederick County.**  
 22 Q And so have you lived in Middletown from

17

1 2002 through present?

2 **A Yes, ma'am.**

3 Q And so now I want to ask you about your

4 voting history from 2002 to the present. Do you

5 recall if you voted regularly during that time?

6 **A What would your interpretation of**

7 **regularly be?**

8 Q That's a great question.

9 Do you recall if you voted in every

10 election in which you've had an opportunity to

11 vote during that time?

12 **A I would say I may not have utilized all**

13 **of my primary opportunities before 2010.**

14 Q Prior to 2010, and I just want to be

15 clear about this, is it that you don't recall if

16 you voted in primary elections or you don't think

17 that you did?

18 **A I actually do not recall.**

19 Q Do you recall if you voted in

20 presidential, excuse me, in general elections

21 during that time period?

22 **A I do recall that I did vote in most**

18

1 **general elections.**

2 Q And would that include gubernatorial

3 elections?

4 **A I would say beyond a reasonable doubt,**

5 **and we are going to go with that, 2010 I voted in**

6 **that gubernatorial election.**

7 Q Okay.

8 **A And definitely the 2014 gubernatorial**

9 **election. Prior to that point, I didn't take a**

10 **look at the voter data. I did not make a marked**

11 **review of that.**

12 Q Okay. And just so I'm clear, have you

13 voted in every election in which you had an

14 opportunity since 2010?

15 **A Yes, ma'am.**

16 Q Okay. And that includes primary

17 elections?

18 **A Yes, ma'am.**

19 Q Okay. Great. Thank you.

20 Are you registered as a member of a

21 political party?

22 **A Yes, ma'am.**

19

1 Q Which one?

2 **A Republican.**

3 Q And do you recall when you first

4 registered as a Republican?

5 **A That would have been when I first**

6 **registered.**

7 Q Have you always registered as a

8 Republican?

9 **A Yes, ma'am.**

10 Q Have you ever registered with another

11 party?

12 **A No, ma'am.**

13 Q Have you ever voted for a candidate who

14 was not a Republican?

15 **A Yes, ma'am.**

16 Q When would that have been?

17 **A In 2010, in a general election, there was**

18 **a county commissioner race where you selected**

19 **five positions, and one of the positions I voted**

20 **for a Democrat.**

21 Q Do you recall who that was?

22 **A Yes. Michael Kurtianyk.**

20

1 Q Okay. And why did you vote for him?

2 **A Because based on the last remaining**

3 **choice in my political party, his fiscal**

4 **perspective and the community organizations that**

5 **he was a part of and I was a part of, I chose him**

6 **because his belief system was very similar to**

7 **mine.**

8 Q Do you recall what organizations he was a

9 part of that you were just referring to?

10 **A He was -- I'm trying -- a lot of**

11 **community organizations, a lot of non-profits. I**

12 **hesitate to mention all because not all come to**

13 **mind at this point.**

14 Q Do any come to mind?

15 **A He was part of -- I don't have it beyond**

16 **a reasonable doubt, but I remember being in**

17 **conjunction and seeing him at the different**

18 **organizations and church as well.**

19 Q And in your initial answer as to why you

20 voted for him, I believe you also said that you

21 shared some political beliefs. Do you recall

22 what those were?



21

1 MS. WEBB: Objection. Mischaracterizes  
 2 the testimony.  
 3 Q You can answer the question.  
 4 In your prior answer, did you say you  
 5 shared some political beliefs with the Democrat  
 6 that you voted for in that election?  
 7 MS. WEBB: Same objection.  
 8 Q Do you recall?  
 9 MS. WEBB: Same objection.  
 10 **A I would restate it to say, it was, if you**  
 11 **categorize a fiscal perspective instead of an**  
 12 **ideology.**  
 13 Q What was that fiscal perspective?  
 14 **A Well, it was a county commissioner**  
 15 **position and our county commissioners facilitate**  
 16 **economic development in the community. They**  
 17 **facilitate land use policies. And his thoughts**  
 18 **in that area were consistent with mine.**  
 19 Q And can you just be more specific about  
 20 what those thoughts are that are consistent with  
 21 yours?  
 22 **A Well, it was in 2010 and our county has**

22

1 **changed, so I can't do that with specificity.**  
 2 Q Is that because you don't remember?  
 3 **A I don't remember.**  
 4 Q Okay. I believe you said this, but I  
 5 just want to clarify. That person was a Democrat  
 6 that we were just talking about?  
 7 **A Yes. He was part of the Democratic**  
 8 **party.**  
 9 Q Do you recall if that was the only time  
 10 that you've ever voted for a candidate who was  
 11 not a Republican?  
 12 **A I believe that's the case.**  
 13 Q Okay. Did you ever vote for someone  
 14 other than Roscoe Bartlett when he was on the  
 15 ballot?  
 16 **A No, not when he was on the ballot.**  
 17 **Obviously the ballot changed later, so I had**  
 18 **different choices later.**  
 19 Q And when you say later, are you referring  
 20 to after 2010?  
 21 **A Uh-huh.**  
 22 Q Do you recall who you voted for to be

23

1 your congressional representative in 2012?  
 2 **A Yes, ma'am.**  
 3 Q Who was that?  
 4 **A Ken Timmerman.**  
 5 Q And do you recall who you voted for to be  
 6 your congressional representative in 2014?  
 7 **A Yes.**  
 8 Q Who was that?  
 9 **A Dan Cox.**  
 10 Q Do you recall who you voted to be your  
 11 congressional representative in 2016?  
 12 **A Excuse me. Hold on. 2016, just for full**  
 13 **clarity, was congressional candidate Cox. And**  
 14 **fast forwarding, I realize I made an error in my**  
 15 **Congressional races.**  
 16 **So in 2016, we have Dan Cox. 2014 -- if**  
 17 **you will bear with me. It will come to me.**  
 18 Q Okay.  
 19 **A I know the folks personally. And you**  
 20 **know how you have a face in front of you. The**  
 21 **name is not happening.**  
 22 Q I know. We can move on. If it springs

24

1 into your head, which sometimes an answer to a  
 2 question will, you can just shout it out later.  
 3 **A It will come at the most inconvenient**  
 4 **time, but I will share it later.**  
 5 Q Call me tomorrow.  
 6 **A No, it will come today.**  
 7 MR. MEDLOCK: Call us first and then --  
 8 Q No. No. Of course.  
 9 Okay. What are the qualities that you  
 10 look for in a political candidate?  
 11 **A I look for somebody who has a solution**  
 12 **that makes fiscal sense.**  
 13 Q How -- I'm sorry.  
 14 **A And I look for a candidate that really,**  
 15 **in all reality, I look at each and every**  
 16 **different area of interest that is important to**  
 17 **me and my family at the time, and keep in mind**  
 18 **not every candidate will represent each and every**  
 19 **circumstance a hundred percent of the time, but I**  
 20 **go with the candidate that represents the vast**  
 21 **majority of the issues and sees the vast majority**  
 22 **of the issues the way that I do.**

25

1 Q The first thing that you mentioned was  
 2 solutions that make fiscal sense. How do you  
 3 define fiscal sense? What does that mean to you?  
 4 **A It is important to me to have legislative**  
 5 **solutions, whether it be local, state, or**  
 6 **federal, pursued in an economically feasible**  
 7 **setting, and that that is part of their solution**  
 8 **that they are concerned about. So it's one of**  
 9 **the decision-making elements in forwarding that**  
 10 **solution.**  
 11 Q If a candidate shared these values, would  
 12 it matter to you what party they belonged to?  
 13 **A There's a difference between sharing a**  
 14 **value and having an experience or a record of**  
 15 **voting circumstances that lead me to believe that**  
 16 **person may or may not have pursued that**  
 17 **direction. And so if the activities of the**  
 18 **individual that I was vetting as a candidate**  
 19 **showed fiscal responsibility in all their**  
 20 **decision making, then I would consider them, but**  
 21 **I haven't found a person, well, I found folks to**  
 22 **do that, to orchestrate that.**

26

1 Q What does that mean you found folks to  
 2 orchestrate that?  
 3 **A Every candidate that I've chosen has a**  
 4 **record, either a voting record or outlines a plan**  
 5 **that reflects a responsible fiscal direction.**  
 6 Q If you found a candidate that had a  
 7 voting record or outlined a plan that reflected  
 8 responsible, a responsible fiscal direction,  
 9 would it matter to you if that candidate were a  
 10 Republican or a Democrat?  
 11 **A I haven't found one.**  
 12 Q Is a voting record for outlining a plan  
 13 that reflects responsible fiscal direction more  
 14 important to you than whether somebody is a  
 15 Republican or a Democrat?  
 16 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 17 **A Can you explain?**  
 18 Q I guess what I'm trying to get at, if you  
 19 were vetting a candidate, and the way that you  
 20 described the things that you are looking for  
 21 most are a voting record or somebody who had  
 22 outlined a plan that reflected responsible fiscal

27

1 direction, so what I'm asking is, if a candidate  
 2 met either of those criteria, but happened to be  
 3 a Democrat, would you consider voting for that  
 4 person?  
 5 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague. Calls for  
 6 speculation.  
 7 **A Funny thing. I found these candidates**  
 8 **and they typically have been a Republican.**  
 9 Q If you had to choice between a Republican  
 10 who did not have a voting record of responsible  
 11 fiscal direction and a Democrat who did, who  
 12 would you vote for?  
 13 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague. It's a  
 14 hypothetical.  
 15 **A Based on the -- can you repeat the**  
 16 **question?**  
 17 Q Sure.  
 18 What I asked is, if you were choosing  
 19 between a Democrat who had a voting record of  
 20 responsible fiscal direction and a Republican who  
 21 did not, who do you think you would vote for?  
 22 MS. WEBB: Objection. Speculation.

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1 Hypothetical.  
 2 **A What is your interpretation of a fiscal**  
 3 **direction? I'm just trying to get your**  
 4 **parameters.**  
 5 Q That's what you described as what you  
 6 look for in a candidate.  
 7 **A Uh-huh.**  
 8 Q So maybe you can provide me with some  
 9 more explanation of what you mean by that.  
 10 **A Well, I haven't found a Democratic**  
 11 **candidate that has a voting record that has**  
 12 **supported the fiscal responsibility that I'm**  
 13 **looking for.**  
 14 Q What fiscal responsibility are you  
 15 looking for?  
 16 **A When legislation is approached and**  
 17 **reviewed, the pieces of legislation -- basically**  
 18 **I just look at who votes for legislation that is**  
 19 **not fiscally responsible. I've found the data in**  
 20 **that. So basically I just have to look at each**  
 21 **piece of legislation and then I judge whether**  
 22 **it's fiscally responsible or not. Basically it**

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1 is relative to the position in office. It is  
 2 also relative to all the votes. And it's also  
 3 relative to the legislation that I view as not  
 4 fiscally responsible tends to have the folks that  
 5 I don't vote for.  
 6 Q Okay. So were you affiliated with the  
 7 Dan Bongino 2014 congressional campaign?  
 8 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 9 Q You can answer the question. You can  
 10 answer the question.  
 11 A What would you define as involvement?  
 12 Q I said affiliated.  
 13 A Affiliated.  
 14 Q Were you affiliated with his campaign?  
 15 A I guess what is your definition of  
 16 affiliation because I know how, where my thoughts  
 17 were in that regard, but I'd like to hear your  
 18 definition of affiliation so I make sure that I  
 19 give you exactly what you are asking.  
 20 Q Did you volunteer for the campaign or  
 21 work for the campaign in any way?  
 22 A No, not in 2014.

30

1 Q Did you work on his or volunteer on his  
 2 2012 campaign?  
 3 A Yes.  
 4 Q For Senate?  
 5 A Yes, ma'am.  
 6 Q Okay. But you were not involved in his  
 7 2014 congressional campaign?  
 8 A No, I did not hold a position in his 2014  
 9 campaign.  
 10 Q You said you didn't hold a position. Did  
 11 you go to events for his campaign that year?  
 12 A I did attend, I know what comes to mind  
 13 is definitely one event.  
 14 Q Which event was that?  
 15 A There was a picnic.  
 16 Q Do you recall where that was?  
 17 A Yes. That was somewhere in Montgomery  
 18 County, I believe.  
 19 Q Do you recall when that was?  
 20 A It was very early in the campaign. I  
 21 think it was the day he announced.  
 22 Q Did you get regularly updates from the

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1 campaign by e-mail?  
 2 A Yes, I did. Did I read them? No. Not  
 3 to be mean. I was just very busy.  
 4 Q I can relate.  
 5 A Before the next question, I wanted to  
 6 tell you I remembered something.  
 7 Q Okay. Great.  
 8 A The 2014 candidate, he came into mind  
 9 and, okay, his name has left me again. I will  
 10 return to it. Hello.  
 11 Q No problem.  
 12 A I have his face in front of me. Wallace,  
 13 Dave Wallace. Thank you.  
 14 Q We've got it on the record. You can now  
 15 forget it forever.  
 16 When you worked on Mr. Bongino's 2012  
 17 campaign, what was your role?  
 18 A I was a volunteer coordinator.  
 19 Q Did you give any money to his 2014  
 20 congressional campaign?  
 21 A Yes, ma'am.  
 22 Q Did you do any -- did you talk to

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1 potential voters on his behalf during the 2014  
 2 congressional campaign?  
 3 A No.  
 4 Q Did you talk to any voters just sort of  
 5 on your own regarding him in 2014 trying to  
 6 encourage people to vote for him in 2014?  
 7 A Okay. I just remembered something  
 8 related to the last question. Can I answer that  
 9 before I address that?  
 10 Q Absolutely.  
 11 A And then I will have you restate the  
 12 question. I'm sorry.  
 13 Q No problem.  
 14 A When you asked me if I spoke to voters on  
 15 his behalf in the 2014 race, I was interpreting,  
 16 even though you didn't say it, I was interpreting  
 17 it related to the primary. During the primary I  
 18 did not engage in suggesting a candidate because  
 19 it was primary season and there were several  
 20 candidates running for the office.  
 21 Post primary, between the primary and the  
 22 general election, I definitely spoke with people

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**1 or engaged, but in a non-organized fashion, if**  
**2 the topic came up, which it rarely did because in**  
**3 my professional life, that wasn't an area that**  
**4 was ever spoken about. But if the opportunity**  
**5 came up in my circles of influence, which they**  
**6 were rather limited, I did promote the candidate,**  
**7 Dan Bongino, when asked between primary to**  
**8 general in 2014.**  
 9 Q And so this was just you as an interested  
 10 voter talking to people and not as a part of the  
 11 campaign is sort of what I just heard you  
 12 describe, so correct me if I'm wrong.  
**13 A Exactly. And then, also, I served on the**  
**14 Republican Central Committee at the time, so it**  
**15 was my duty at the time to promote all of our**  
**16 Republican candidates running in our geographic**  
**17 territory.**  
 18 Q Is that the Frederick County Republican  
 19 Committee?  
**20 A Yes, ma'am.**  
 21 Q Okay. Did you believe that Mr. Bongino  
 22 could win his Congressional election in 2014?

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**1 A I actually did not have an opinion as to**  
**2 whether he could or couldn't win. The assumption**  
**3 for every candidate that runs for office is that**  
**4 their ideas will allow them to prevail at the**  
**5 ballot box.**  
 6 Q When you were talking to people in that  
 7 limited role you were describing, encouraging  
 8 them to vote for him after the primary and before  
 9 the general, did you find that people were  
 10 planning to vote for him?  
 11 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 12 Speculation.  
**13 A Can you restate the question with a**  
**14 little more specificity?**  
 15 Q Sure.  
 16 When you were talking to people in that  
 17 sort of informal role you were describing, did  
 18 you encounter people who were excited to vote for  
 19 him?  
 20 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
**21 A Well, oddly enough, most of the**  
**22 conversation in my county that I had to end up**

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**1 going into before I'd even engage the person I**  
**2 was talking to was gaining, and educating, and**  
**3 facilitating, and understanding of what district**  
**4 they were in so they knew who they would be**  
**5 considering.**  
 6 So if there was any time left over,  
 7 whomever we were considering, whether we were  
 8 running District 8 or running District 6,  
 9 depending upon where the person lived, if there's  
 10 any time left over, of course I suggested the  
 11 candidate at the time.  
 12 Q Okay. When you would speak with a  
 13 potential voter, did you attempt to gauge whether  
 14 that person intended to vote in the upcoming  
 15 election?  
**16 A I would ask them if they intended to**  
**17 vote, yes.**  
 18 Q When you would have those conversations,  
 19 was your experience that people did intend to  
 20 vote?  
 21 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 22 Speculation.

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**1 A Can you restate the question?**  
 2 Q When you would have those conversations,  
 3 how would people typically respond to you?  
 4 MS. WEBB: Same objections.  
**5 A Well, you have to understand that in the**  
**6 course of a conversation, the first thing that**  
**7 you start with when you engage folks in your**  
**8 community could be a multitude of different**  
**9 topics. If the topic would come up, I found**  
**10 myself spending most of my time explaining why in**  
**11 the same county we had a number or two different**  
**12 congressional candidates. And where do I live?**  
**13 What district am I? Then who should I be**  
**14 considering from your vantage point? Who's the**  
**15 opposition? And so I would share when we spend**  
**16 most of our time getting through there.**  
 17 Q And do you recall ever having someone say  
 18 to you that they were not going to vote?  
**19 A Uh-huh.**  
 20 Q What do you recall about those  
 21 conversations?  
**22 A Quite frankly, it would just come up in**

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1 **the conversation. I would ask why, and a large**  
 2 **percentage of folks, if they had historically**  
 3 **voted, they were confused about the candidates. It**  
 4 **They didn't know who they should be engaging. It**  
 5 **was a very confusing situation for them that**  
 6 **year.**  
 7 Q Do you recall why any particular person  
 8 was confused?  
 9 A **Uh-huh. In our community, we had two**  
 10 **congressional districts represented and the lines**  
 11 **for it were very confusing. So somebody in town,**  
 12 **in this town, part of that town could be part of**  
 13 **District 8, part of District 6. So we spent most**  
 14 **of our time on the hand-held devices trying to**  
 15 **verify the addresses and figuring out if they**  
 16 **were in the part of this town that was in this**  
 17 **district or that district.**  
 18 **And then by the time you get through**  
 19 **20 minutes of that conversation, they were like,**  
 20 **well, if they are going -- there was definitely**  
 21 **some concern that it was made to be too confusing**  
 22 **for people who had a certain amount of time, and**

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1 **they felt as though they didn't want to**  
 2 **participate that time because it seemed too**  
 3 **confusing. They felt as though they might make a**  
 4 **wrong choice.**  
 5 Q Aside from that confusion that you just  
 6 described, do you recall people giving you other  
 7 reasons why they may not vote?  
 8 A **I'm sure they did, but I don't recall it**  
 9 **with specificity.**  
 10 Q Okay. Do you consider yourself to be  
 11 politically active?  
 12 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 13 A **Can you specify a time frame?**  
 14 Q Sure.  
 15 Since 2010, since you sort of -- I think  
 16 earlier in your testimony you described that you  
 17 started voting regularly in 2010. So since 2010,  
 18 would you consider that you've been politically  
 19 active?  
 20 A **I guess what -- the reason I ask is for**  
 21 **your interpretation of what politically active**  
 22 **is.**

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1 Q Have you ever worked on a campaign other  
 2 than Dan Bongino's 2012 senatorial campaign?  
 3 A **Yes, one other in 2010 for a delegate**  
 4 **race for the State House.**  
 5 Q Whose race was that?  
 6 A **Kathy Afzali.**  
 7 Q Okay. Any time prior to 2010 did you  
 8 work on a political campaign?  
 9 A **No, ma'am.**  
 10 Q Not even as a volunteer?  
 11 A **No.**  
 12 Q Since 2010, have you volunteered on a  
 13 campaign other than that delegate campaign or the  
 14 2012 senatorial campaign?  
 15 A **No.**  
 16 Q I think you described a picnic that you  
 17 attended that was part of Dan Bongino's campaign  
 18 in 2014.  
 19 A **Yes.**  
 20 Q Other than that, have you ever attended  
 21 an event held by your congressional  
 22 representative or any congressional

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1 representative? We will start with your  
 2 congressional representative.  
 3 A **For Dan Cox this year. No, no, I did not**  
 4 **attend any events for the congressional**  
 5 **candidate. Since 2012, just for clarity, or,**  
 6 **actually, 2014, since 2014, I have not been**  
 7 **attending political events.**  
 8 Q But you did prior to 2014?  
 9 A **Periodically. I was part of a Central**  
 10 **Committee, so we had an annual fund-raiser. That**  
 11 **was a typical event that was coordinated and**  
 12 **attended. So if you are talking about specific**  
 13 **support of a specific individual, that would only**  
 14 **be relegated the two folks we have before us**  
 15 **today that you mentioned.**  
 16 Q That would be the 2010 delegate race  
 17 and --  
 18 A **Senatorial race. And I did attend a**  
 19 **fund-raiser for or the fund-raiser for Dan in his**  
 20 **congressional race.**  
 21 Q Is that the picnic you were talking about  
 22 or is that something else?

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**1 A There was a picnic, and I'm sure that I**  
**2 attended a couple other events, but I just don't**  
**3 remember which ones.**  
 4 Q Was the fund-raiser the picnic or was  
 5 that a different event?  
**6 A Well, he had several fund-raisers, so I'm**  
**7 sure that I went to more than one.**  
 8 Q Okay. What did you do at those  
 9 fund-raisers?  
**10 A Enjoyed the company.**  
 11 Q Did you do any political work?  
**12 A No.**  
 13 MS. WEBB: Objection.  
 14 Q You were just an attendee?  
**15 A (Witness nods head.)**  
 16 Q Got it.  
 17 Would you pay to attend those  
 18 fund-raisers?  
**19 A Yes, ma'am.**  
 20 Q Let's start with when you lived in  
 21 Maryland prior to your move to Pennsylvania. So  
 22 from the time that you registered to vote, let's

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1 say, in 1991 to 1997, do you recall if you ever  
 2 contacted your congressional representative for  
 3 any reason?  
**4 A I don't recall. I'm pretty sure I did,**  
**5 but I don't remember what it was about, but I'm**  
**6 pretty sure I did.**  
 7 Q In that instance, do you remember who you  
 8 would have contacted?  
**9 A I typically would contact Roscoe**  
**10 Bartlett's office.**  
 11 Q And since that was I think before e-mail  
 12 was the only way people communicate, do you  
 13 recall if you would have done that by phone or in  
 14 person? Do you recall how you made that  
 15 communication?  
**16 A I believe it would have been a phone**  
**17 call, if I needed something. As I say, I don't**  
**18 remember.**  
 19 Q Sometimes when we talk about things, it  
 20 sort of like jogs the memory. That's why I'm  
 21 asking you other questions.  
 22 So you think you probably made a phone

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1 call to Congressman Bartlett's office sometime  
 2 between 1991 and 1997. Is that correct?  
**3 A Uh-huh. I think it was just a question**  
**4 about a passport because I obtained my passport**  
**5 for the very first time. I needed some guidance.**  
 6 Q Okay. And then since you've moved back  
 7 to Maryland, which was I believe you said 2000,  
 8 since you moved back to Maryland in 2000, do you  
 9 recall if you have contacted your congressional  
 10 representative constituent services?  
**11 A Yes, I have in between I think 2004 and**  
**12 2005. If I remember correctly, in 2005 we had an**  
**13 issue obtaining my infant's passport.**  
 14 Q And so do you recall what form that  
 15 communication took?  
**16 A That was actually a point of contact that**  
**17 my husband initiated, and that was via e-mail and**  
**18 phone. I know we worked significantly by phone.**  
 19 Q And, again, I'm sorry. That was with  
 20 Congressman Bartlett's office?  
**21 A Uh-huh.**  
 22 Q Were they able to help you?

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**1 A Yes.**  
 2 Q And since that time, 2004 to 2005, do you  
 3 recall contacting your congressional  
 4 representative's constituent services at any  
 5 other time?  
**6 A Not the constituent services, no. Uh-uh.**  
 7 Q Okay. How else have you contacted your  
 8 congressional representative?  
**9 A Typically if I would ask a question about**  
**10 an issue or if I would share any thoughts on a**  
**11 matter, I would e-mail them, but that was**  
**12 typically via e-mail.**  
 13 Q And do you recall what sorts of issues  
 14 you e-mailed your congressional representative  
 15 about?  
**16 A School choice, charter school events.**  
 17 Q And do you recall who you would have made  
 18 those communications with, the school choice and  
 19 charter school events?  
**20 A The elected official in the position at**  
**21 the time.**  
 22 Q Okay. So when you lived, or prior to

45	<p>1 2012, would that have been Congressman Bartlett's 2 office? 3 <b>A Sure.</b> 4 Q Do you have a specific recollection of 5 communicating with Congressman's Bartlett's 6 office about school choice and charter school 7 issues? 8 <b>A No, because at that time we did not</b> 9 <b>attend one.</b> 10 Q Okay. So when you say that you contacted 11 your representative about school choice and 12 charter school issues, who were you referring to? 13 Which representative? 14 <b>A That was within the last year. I had</b> 15 <b>touched bases with at the time it was</b> 16 <b>Van Hollen's office, and he's our senator now,</b> 17 <b>but that was 8 and then the 6, Delaney.</b> 18 <b>We had an event at the school and I did</b> 19 <b>ask them if they would enjoy the event with us.</b> 20 Q Did you hear back from those offices, 21 from those communications? 22 <b>A Oddly enough, I did hear back from --</b></p>	47	<p>1 <b>Frederick City's, they sent somebody along to go</b> 2 <b>to the event, but not himself.</b> 3 MR. MEDLOCK: I don't want to interrupt 4 your flow, but it's 2 o'clock. 5 MS. KATZ: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. 6 I will ask one more question and then we will 7 break. 8 Q I just want to be clear, a representative 9 from Congressman Delaney's office came to the 10 event that you invited Congressman Delaney to 11 attend in Frederick City? 12 <b>A Just so you know, I was not inviting him</b> 13 <b>on behalf of myself. I was inviting him on</b> 14 <b>behalf of the school.</b> 15 Q Okay. 16 <b>A So it was not a personal invitation. It</b> 17 <b>was building an awareness for an event. Wouldn't</b> 18 <b>they like to come?</b> 19 Q And the invitation came from you? 20 <b>A It was penned by me, but as a board</b> 21 <b>member of that school.</b> 22 Q Certainly. I understand.</p>
46	<p>1 <b>keep in mind, and this goes back into some of the</b> 2 <b>confusion, our central location for most of our</b> 3 <b>events or when you offer a charter school, you</b> 4 <b>want to offer a school in the middle of the</b> 5 <b>county and that would be Frederick City. So our</b> 6 <b>congressman in Frederick City is Congressman</b> 7 <b>Delaney, but my actual congressman at the time</b> 8 <b>was Congressman Van Hollen, but now senator. So</b> 9 <b>that was why I would have been in contact with</b> 10 <b>his office.</b> 11 <b>But Congressman's Van Hollen's office did</b> 12 <b>not respond and I know Congressman Delaney's did.</b> 13 Q Do you know how Congressman's Delaney's 14 office responded? 15 <b>A Uh-huh.</b> 16 Q How is that? 17 <b>A Responded via e-mail. It appears they</b> 18 <b>put me on an e-mail list as well.</b> 19 Q Okay. 20 <b>A Even though he's not my representative.</b> 21 <b>But -- and I believe Congressman Delaney, even</b> 22 <b>though he is not my Congressman, but he is</b></p>	48	<p>1 MS. KATZ: Okay. Great. We will break. 2 (Break taken.) 3 (Ms. Rice was not present for the 4 remainder of the deposition.) 5 BY MS. KATZ: 6 Q Why did you become politically active in 7 2010? 8 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague. 9 <b>A Can you be more --</b> 10 Q Sure. 11 I think you described you started voting 12 regularly in 2010. When did you become -- when 13 did you join the Frederick County, what was it, 14 Central Republican Committee? 15 MS. WEBB: Objection. Mischaracterizes 16 the testimony. 17 MS. KATZ: That she became involved with 18 the Frederick County -- 19 MS. WEBB: That she started voting 20 regularly in 2010? 21 MS. KATZ: That's what she told me. 22 Q Isn't that what you told me?</p>

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1 **A I have a distinct memory of my actions as**  
 2 **to whether I attended primaries and general from**  
 3 **2010 solidly going forward. Before that it was**  
 4 **intermittent. I'm not sure if I hit every**  
 5 **primary and every general is what I was trying to**  
 6 **say.**  
 7 Q So you have a memory of voting --  
 8 **A 2010 going forward.**  
 9 Q Got it.  
 10 When did you become involved with the  
 11 Frederick County Republican Central Committee?  
 12 **A That would have started in 2011.**  
 13 Q Why did you become involved with that  
 14 organization?  
 15 **A I was a volunteer for many candidates,**  
 16 **supporting many candidates in the general**  
 17 **election in 2010. So during my volunteer**  
 18 **efforts, I found that the coordinating body of**  
 19 **the party and the candidates that I tended to**  
 20 **support happened to be embodied in the Central**  
 21 **Committee.**  
 22 Q Which candidates did you volunteer for in

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1 2010?  
 2 **A I just volunteered for Kathy Afzali.**  
 3 **However, after she made it through the general**  
 4 **election, I ended up meeting and actually**  
 5 **personally knowing more so the other candidates**  
 6 **in the field. Even though I knew their positions**  
 7 **and whatnot, I tended to know them personally as**  
 8 **well.**  
 9 **So a lot of my efforts not only engaged**  
 10 **on my specific candidate, but I also worked to**  
 11 **leverage a lot of the things that I did for the**  
 12 **one candidate, and these are like more**  
 13 **administrative tasks, and helped some other**  
 14 **candidates in that regard.**  
 15 **Like I will give you an example. Sign**  
 16 **distribution on election day, all of the polling**  
 17 **stations, so I would carry other signs if other**  
 18 **folks needed help kind of thing. So just**  
 19 **administrative duty.**  
 20 Q Thank you.  
 21 What does the Frederick County Republican  
 22 Central Committee do?

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1 **A They coordinate, get out the vote**  
 2 **efforts.**  
 3 Q Anything else? Oh, I'm sorry.  
 4 **A And the purpose of the Central Committee**  
 5 **is a coordinative entity and a supportive entity.**  
 6 Q And how are they a supportive entity?  
 7 **A After primary season is over and the**  
 8 **nominees are selected, they work to coordinate**  
 9 **events and administrative efforts like the one**  
 10 **that I just detailed to assist the candidates**  
 11 **running for office in the general election.**  
 12 Q And what did you do for that  
 13 organization?  
 14 **A Exactly what I just outlined. I assisted**  
 15 **in that way.**  
 16 Q Did you have like a position name at the  
 17 organization?  
 18 **A I was a general member until November of**  
 19 **2013. Oh. Shortly before that I was a**  
 20 **supportive position. I was co-chair for a little**  
 21 **bit before November, 2013. And then from**  
 22 **November, 2013, until June, 2014, I served as the**

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1 **chair of that committee.**  
 2 Q What did you do as the chair of the  
 3 committee? What were your responsibilities?  
 4 **A Support all of the efforts that we**  
 5 **outlined in the previous question.**  
 6 Q Okay. I don't think I've asked this.  
 7 Why did you get involved with the Frederick  
 8 County Republican Central Committee?  
 9 **A Because they supported the candidates**  
 10 **that I supported as well.**  
 11 Q Do you recall if there was a reason that  
 12 you -- do you recall why in 2010 you decided to  
 13 get involved in -- I'm sorry, I'm not going to be  
 14 able to say her last name -- the delegate's  
 15 campaign?  
 16 MR. MEDLOCK: Afzali.  
 17 MS. KATZ: Afzali?  
 18 MR. MEDLOCK: Yeah.  
 19 Q Do you recall why you decided to get  
 20 involved in her campaign?  
 21 **A Yes. Yes. Uh-huh.**  
 22 Q What were those reasons?



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1 A I was very cognizant of activities on a  
 2 national and becoming more focused on state laws  
 3 and local laws, and I found that my participation  
 4 was something that would help promote candidates  
 5 that would make better choices. And that my only  
 6 way to do that is seek and find and support those  
 7 candidates.  
 8 Q What state laws were you particularly  
 9 concerned about?  
 10 A At the time?  
 11 Q Yes.  
 12 A Actually, you know what? They changed so  
 13 much since then. I was actually disappointed in  
 14 many of the laws affecting our farmers and our  
 15 local economy at the time. My county happened to  
 16 be at the time the leading milk producer in the  
 17 state and the population of that group was  
 18 severely receding.  
 19 Q I think you just identified farming  
 20 issues.  
 21 A Yeah.  
 22 Q At the time.

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1 Were there any other issues that you were  
 2 concerned about at the time?  
 3 A I would say that issue was one of the  
 4 most severe, but there were a number of other  
 5 issues, and, quite frankly, they just do not come  
 6 to mind at this point.  
 7 Q Okay. Who is Blaine Young?  
 8 A He was a previous elected official in  
 9 Frederick County.  
 10 Q What office did he hold?  
 11 A I believe he was a county commissioner.  
 12 Actually, I know he was a county commissioner.  
 13 Q Is that somebody you supported  
 14 politically?  
 15 A In what year?  
 16 Q 2014.  
 17 A Yes.  
 18 Q How did you support him, Blaine Young?  
 19 A Well, quite frankly, the area, I did not  
 20 provide any campaign contributions. During the  
 21 time frame between November and June of 2014, I  
 22 was the chairman of the Central Committee, and

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1 during primary season I supported no candidate  
 2 for County Executive. In that case he was  
 3 running for County Executive.  
 4 The reason I didn't support a candidate  
 5 during primary season is because when you are  
 6 with a political organization, and it runs the  
 7 same way on the other side, you do not endorse or  
 8 give any extra effort toward any candidate when  
 9 there are other persons in the primary. So I did  
 10 not outwardly and even, I definitely didn't even  
 11 volunteer for his campaign at all.  
 12 So, in 2014 after the primary, I resigned  
 13 from the Central Committee or, actually, no. I  
 14 was not chair. I resigned as chair in June. So  
 15 from the primary until the general election, I  
 16 was a Central Committee, regular Central  
 17 Committee member, and at that time I was not  
 18 active on any candidate's campaign at that point.  
 19 Q Why did you resign as chair in June of  
 20 2014?  
 21 A We had a death in the family. My brother  
 22 died in April and we were assisting in efforts in

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1 that regard.  
 2 Q I'm very sorry to hear that.  
 3 A Thank you.  
 4 And I didn't think it was fair if I sat  
 5 in that position between the primary and general.  
 6 We needed somebody more available and more  
 7 present.  
 8 Q I understand.  
 9 Did Blaine Young win the general election  
 10 in 2014?  
 11 A No.  
 12 Q Based on your knowledge of Frederick  
 13 County politics, why do you think he lost?  
 14 A I don't know. You would have to ask all  
 15 the voters and why they chose that way. Quite  
 16 frankly, I didn't ask folks. It wasn't a  
 17 conversation that I had.  
 18 Q Okay. When was the first time you became  
 19 interested in redistricting?  
 20 A As soon as it was proposed in like 2011.  
 21 Q Okay. So prior to the 2011 redistricting  
 22 process, prior to that process, did you have an

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1 interest in redistricting?  
 2 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 3 **A I had an interest in following the**  
 4 **process.**  
 5 Q Okay.  
 6 **A And reviewing that process.**  
 7 Q Okay. Have you ever testified before a  
 8 political body about redistricting?  
 9 **A No.**  
 10 Q Have you ever submitted a written comment  
 11 about redistricting to an elected official?  
 12 **A No.**  
 13 Q Have you ever called an elected  
 14 representative about redistricting?  
 15 **A I spoke personally with the elected**  
 16 **officials at the time regarding my concerns.**  
 17 Q Which elected officials were those?  
 18 **A At the time it would have been my two**  
 19 **delegates, Kathy Afzali, and at the time Delegate**  
 20 **Kelly Schultz. And then also I shared my**  
 21 **comments with at the time my state senator,**  
 22 **Senator Brinkley.**

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1 Q And that was in 2011? Those contacts  
 2 took place in 2011?  
 3 **A Uh-huh.**  
 4 Q I think you said this. I'm sorry. Those  
 5 were in person?  
 6 **A Uh-huh.**  
 7 Q Those comments were in person to those  
 8 individuals?  
 9 **A Uh-huh.**  
 10 Q Did you help gather signatures on a  
 11 petition related to redistricting?  
 12 **A I believe I did.**  
 13 Q Do you know when that was?  
 14 **A I don't recall the date, but I know the**  
 15 **time frame, that was appropriate. It was very**  
 16 **few in number on that petition.**  
 17 Q Okay. Do you recall when you first found  
 18 out about the 2011 congressional redistricting  
 19 cycle?  
 20 **A No. I don't have a date, an exact date**  
 21 **in mind. I do know that as soon as the**  
 22 **information was available, I was attempting to**

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1 **share with folks because of our concerns.**  
 2 Q When you say the information was  
 3 available, what information are you referring to?  
 4 **A The map. I'm more of a visual person.**  
 5 **Probably the advertisement as to what was**  
 6 **happening was more so available when the map was**  
 7 **available.**  
 8 Q Do you recall if that was before the  
 9 legislation was passed?  
 10 **A I do know that I viewed it before the**  
 11 **legislation was passed and also what was**  
 12 **finalized.**  
 13 Q Okay. Did you testify before the  
 14 Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee?  
 15 **A No, ma'am.**  
 16 Q Did you post any public comments or  
 17 submit any public comments to the Governor's  
 18 Redistricting Advisory Committee after the plan  
 19 was made public?  
 20 **A No. I shared it with my local to**  
 21 **officials or my state officials.**  
 22 Q And do you recall voting on the

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1 referendum specific to the redistricting plan?  
 2 **A Yes.**  
 3 Q Do you recall how you voted?  
 4 **A Honestly, quite frankly, I would have to**  
 5 **have the words in front of me and then I can tell**  
 6 **you how I voted.**  
 7 Q Okay.  
 8 **A I definitely voted to request that**  
 9 **another redistricting plan would come forward.**  
 10 Q Great. Thank you.  
 11 Aside from the comments with your two  
 12 delegates and the senator that you described and  
 13 your conduct in this lawsuit, have you taken any  
 14 other action about redistricting after the  
 15 passage of the plan in 2011?  
 16 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 17 **A Actually, I did, and this is where a**  
 18 **Central Committee is very valuable. Being a**  
 19 **participant of the Central Committee, I work to**  
 20 **make sure that at our events and also in the area**  
 21 **of the folks that we had contact with that we**  
 22 **shared the implications of the changes in**

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1 **district and made sure, tried to educate the**  
 2 **public on the new realities within that map.**  
 3 Q Okay.  
 4 A **So I put together materials, help educate**  
 5 **folks. We handed out palm cards. We handed**  
 6 **those out during parades and gave them the**  
 7 **candidates to consider and where do you live**  
 8 **because it wasn't enough just to promote the**  
 9 **candidate. You needed to spend half your time**  
 10 **educating the public as to who they should be**  
 11 **talking to.**  
 12 Q How did you first hear about this  
 13 lawsuit?  
 14 A **I actually have a friend, a few friends**  
 15 **that I knew from the Bongino campaign that I was**  
 16 **reading some articles on their social media and**  
 17 **happened to see that and read about it, and I, of**  
 18 **course, follow national and global issues.**  
 19 Q And so did you reach out to them, the  
 20 people whose comments you saw on social media, or  
 21 did somebody talk to you?  
 22 MS. WEBB: Just a general caution not to

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1 disclose any conversations you had with attorneys  
 2 in this matter.  
 3 Q After you asked to be represented in this  
 4 matter.  
 5 A **Can you restate the question?**  
 6 Q So you said you first heard about the  
 7 lawsuit like on social media.  
 8 A **Reading an article. There was a**  
 9 **Washington Post article.**  
 10 Q That you knew from the Bongino campaign?  
 11 A **Uh-huh.**  
 12 Q So the follow-up question was, how did  
 13 you join the lawsuit?  
 14 MS. WEBB: Objection.  
 15 Q So without going into specifics, did  
 16 somebody reach out to you to join the lawsuit?  
 17 A **In this case, my contact with my friend,**  
 18 **I actually asked her about it, and contact was**  
 19 **made at a later point regarding my interest.**  
 20 Q Contact from your friend?  
 21 A **I shared some opinions with my friend,**  
 22 **but we didn't talk about a connection to any**

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1 **interest in joining. And then from that point, I**  
 2 **had some confidential communication.**  
 3 Q So somebody reached out to you and asked  
 4 you to join this lawsuit?  
 5 A **I indicated I was interested.**  
 6 Q So you indicated you were interested to  
 7 your friend? Who did you indicate your interest  
 8 to?  
 9 A **I indicated I was interested in the topic**  
 10 **to my friend, and then my communication from that**  
 11 **point on I can't disclose.**  
 12 Q You can disclose who reached out to you  
 13 about joining this lawsuit before you joined the  
 14 lawsuit.  
 15 MR. MEDLOCK: You know what? It might be  
 16 easier if we have a quick conversation off the  
 17 record where I can direct her about privilege.  
 18 Do you want to take a quick break?  
 19 MS. KATZ: I do, yes. Let's do that.  
 20 (Break taken.)  
 21 BY MS. KATZ:  
 22 Q I think I asked who reached out to you to

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1 ask you to join the lawsuit.  
 2 A **Okay. This is how the conversation**  
 3 **pursued. I was very interested in articles and**  
 4 **the topic because of my past experience. And**  
 5 **Maria Pycha asked me if I was interested in the**  
 6 **lawsuit, and I said, yes, I was. And after that**  
 7 **point I was contacted by an attorney regarding**  
 8 **it.**  
 9 Q Thank you.  
 10 And why did you decide to join it?  
 11 A **Because I was very concerned that the**  
 12 **changes actually divided my community. And when**  
 13 **I say divided my community, our county is, if you**  
 14 **look at a picture, the two congressional**  
 15 **districts, we spent the 2012 and even the 2014**  
 16 **election really educating voters on the**  
 17 **differences and making sure that when they were**  
 18 **considering their candidates, that they were**  
 19 **considering the right ones.**  
 20 **And usually as somebody who wants the**  
 21 **voter to be met with the best information**  
 22 **available, you don't want to spend time on those**

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1 matters. You want them to find the people that  
 2 align with their interest.  
 3 Q Okay. Thank you.  
 4 Do you think that you were harmed by the  
 5 2011 congressional redistricting plan?  
 6 MS. WEBB: Objection. Vague.  
 7 A How would you interpret or how would you  
 8 like to define harm?  
 9 Q Did it negatively impact you in any way?  
 10 A I feel as though it negatively impacted  
 11 my community, as well as myself, because it  
 12 geographically split my community. In all  
 13 communities, especially in Frederick County, and  
 14 a lot of other areas are much like this, where  
 15 you have outer lying areas and you have a central  
 16 meeting point. Frederick City is our central  
 17 meeting point, and I'm very active in a lot of  
 18 activities and they all culminate in Frederick.  
 19 When you know that people need to be the  
 20 people running for office, you want to make sure  
 21 they have the best opportunity to meet the people  
 22 that they will actually be voting for on election

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1 day. And I found as though folks, even very  
 2 highly educated folks, being Ph.D.s, Master's, a  
 3 number of different areas, they honestly did not  
 4 believe that it had changed so significantly, not  
 5 only with the, especially with the congressional  
 6 map, because they didn't know who they should be  
 7 voting for.  
 8 A lot of times I would be in a group of  
 9 people and they would be like, well, I can't wait  
 10 to vote for this person, and to have to explain  
 11 to them, no, actually, you can't vote for this  
 12 person because you are in this congressional  
 13 district. Oh. Well, who are my candidates there  
 14 and how do I meet them?  
 15 So it really divided the community, and  
 16 it also placed a situation where there was a lot  
 17 of extra steps that they needed to do along with  
 18 others to make sure that they had that  
 19 opportunity to vote and to be fully vested in the  
 20 election cycle.  
 21 Q How did it negatively impact you?  
 22 A How did it negatively impact me?

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1 Q Uh-huh.  
 2 A I found that I was separated from areas  
 3 that I aligned with. Like take, for example,  
 4 speaking geographically, I live 10 miles away  
 5 from a friend voting in a different congressional  
 6 district. There was a disconnect between myself  
 7 and my community as to who we would be voting for  
 8 for these positions.  
 9 Q Anything else?  
 10 A I also felt very harmed because I saw  
 11 many people in my community very frustrated with  
 12 the process and very frustrated that there were  
 13 not clear lines drawn to keep everybody together.  
 14 Q Okay.  
 15 A I -- yeah. Never mind.  
 16 MS. KATZ: Ms. Ropp, those are all the  
 17 questions I have for you today. Your lawyers may  
 18 have some.  
 19 MR. MEDLOCK: Can we have a quick break  
 20 so we can confer whether we do, actually?  
 21 MS. KATZ: Absolutely.  
 22 (Break taken.)

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1 MR. MEDLOCK: I think we will have a few  
 2 questions.  
 3 EXAMINATION BY MS. WEBB:  
 4 Q A few more questions about some testimony  
 5 you gave earlier.  
 6 You testified that you registered to vote  
 7 when you were 20 years old. Is that right?  
 8 A Approximately, yeah.  
 9 Q Okay.  
 10 A Because that was the first presidential  
 11 election after I turned 18.  
 12 Q That you could vote in?  
 13 A Uh-huh.  
 14 Q Okay. And you testified that you voted  
 15 in every presidential race after you turned 20 to  
 16 the present. Correct?  
 17 A Uh-huh.  
 18 Q And then you also testified that in each  
 19 of those you voted for a U.S. house  
 20 representative?  
 21 A Uh-huh.  
 22 Q And do you recall voting in some of the

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1 gubernatorial elections since you were 20 years  
 2 old prior to 2010?  
 3 **A I know I did vote in the gubernatorial**  
 4 **election at some point, but I don't remember how**  
 5 **many, but I know particularly one.**  
 6 Q But you voted regularly in every  
 7 presidential election since then?  
 8 **A Uh-huh.**  
 9 Q Thank you.  
 10 You mentioned that you voted in the  
 11 referendum on the 2011 redistricting. Is that  
 12 correct?  
 13 **A I voted --**  
 14 Q I'm sorry. You voted on the referendum  
 15 about the redistricting?  
 16 **A Yes, and that took place in 2012.**  
 17 Q And you mentioned that you would have to  
 18 see the referendum text itself to remember how  
 19 you voted.  
 20 **A Uh-huh.**  
 21 Q Whether yes or no. Correct?  
 22 **A Correct.**

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1 Q And why is that?  
 2 **A Because the wording did not show the**  
 3 **visual as to the clear impact to the House of**  
 4 **Representatives voting districts, and I found**  
 5 **that one of the biggest promotional items that I**  
 6 **gave before the referendum was not only why we**  
 7 **were voting this way, but what was a picture of**  
 8 **the actual voting districts. And I found that if**  
 9 **I just gave folks a copy of the referendum, but**  
 10 **not a picture to illustrate it, they would not**  
 11 **orchestrate a decision based on the words because**  
 12 **they felt as though the words were not clear to**  
 13 **them, but the most clear example was when they**  
 14 **looked at the picture and the words, they were**  
 15 **able, beyond a reasonable doubt, to put together**  
 16 **their position as to being dissatisfied with the**  
 17 **map and that they wanted the State to go back and**  
 18 **consider a different map.**  
 19 Q So people didn't like the map when they  
 20 saw it?  
 21 **A No. My concern was, is that the people**  
 22 **that we didn't get to, which we really tried far**

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1 **and wide to get to, the people that we didn't get**  
 2 **to, that they would go into the ballot box not**  
 3 **understanding, and there was a big undervote on**  
 4 **those referendums, specifically that one.**  
 5 Q Did people talk about why they didn't  
 6 like the map?  
 7 **A Yes, because, like I will give you an**  
 8 **example, one of the reasons I was concerned was**  
 9 **that I was in the 8th district here in a**  
 10 **community where we had a mixture of economic**  
 11 **development, agriculture, growth, and then we had**  
 12 **Bethesda as part of it, and I didn't do any**  
 13 **community activities in the central locations**  
 14 **like Bethesda, and I didn't have a correlation**  
 15 **with or an identity with the folks in that area.**  
 16 **So I felt as though, and so did everybody**  
 17 **else, depending on their circumstance, they felt**  
 18 **as though there were areas of influence that were**  
 19 **not reflective of their geography and their**  
 20 **communities.**  
 21 Q Did the referendum include any pictures  
 22 of the districts, the new districts?

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1 **A No. They did early on share some**  
 2 **information, but that map was not available on**  
 3 **the day of voting for the referendum.**  
 4 Q You testified, I will try to use your  
 5 exact words, that there is an assumption that  
 6 every candidate that runs has a real chance of  
 7 getting elected based on their views, if they are  
 8 the right views. Do you believe that is true  
 9 presently in the 6th district?  
 10 **A No, because there is -- I've had exposure**  
 11 **to voter data, voter attendance, and voter**  
 12 **affiliation and identification, and there's no**  
 13 **way that that is the case.**  
 14 MS. WEBB: Thank you. Okay. I think  
 15 that's all we have.  
 16 MS. KATZ: Thank you, again.  
 17 THE WITNESS: Thank you.  
 18 THE REPORTER: I just want to make sure.  
 19 You want this in five days?  
 20 MR. MEDLOCK: Yes. All of them will be  
 21 five days.  
 22 (Off the record at 2:48 p.m.)

1 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER-NOTARY PUBLIC

2

3 I, Carla M. Sinclair, the officer before whom  
4 the foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby  
5 certify that the foregoing transcript is a true  
6 and correct record of the testimony given; that  
7 said testimony was taken by me stenographically  
8 and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my  
9 direction; that reading and signing was  
10 not discussed; and that I am neither counsel for,  
11 related to, nor employed by any of the parties to  
12 this case and have no interest, financial or  
13 otherwise, in its outcome.

14

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my  
16 hand and affixed my notarial seal this 30th day  
17 of January, 2017.

18

19 *Carla M. Sinclair*

20

21 My commission expires:

22 November 13, 2018

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Conducted on January 27, 2017

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