

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

In the Matter of the 2021)
Redistricting Plan) Case No.: 3AN-21-08869 CI
) 4BE-21-00372 CI
)

AFFIDAVIT OF LOUIS L. THEISS

STATE OF ALASKA)
)
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

I, Lou Theiss, being first duly sworn under oath, depose and say:

1. I am a registered voter in the State of Alaska and the Municipality of Anchorage. I have resided in Girdwood, Alaska for over forty years.

2. Senate District E in the Redistricting Board's April 13, 2022 Amended Proclamation, which pairs Girdwood with Eagle River, would dilute the influence of Girdwood voters.

3. Girdwood's prior pairing with the Hillside is much closer both in distance and political disposition than its pairing with Eagle River. Our children go to high school in South Anchorage. Much of the time, over the last 10 years, our road contractors have been based in the South Anchorage Hillside area. We shop there. We often recreate, eat and socialize there. A few weeks ago, I ran into Roger Holland, our current District N Senator, at the Abbott Loop Fred Meyer. We had a 10-minute face-to-face constituent meeting. If I had a Senator from Eagle River, this would never happen. There are

numerous intervening Senate Districts between Eagle River and Girdwood and it's a very long drive. Distance makes a difference.

4. Politically, Girdwood and Eagle River couldn't be more disparate. From 2004 to 2013, while Girdwood was trying to pass the 3 areawide school bonds necessary to build a new K-8 school in three phases (planning money, design money and construction money), Eagle River voted against them consistently. Because School Bonds are won or lost by thin margins, these losses were keenly felt.

5. Whereas Girdwood typically approves everyone's bond propositions, whether areawide or just agreeing to be included in the total assessed valuation guarantee that is necessary to pass general service area bonds outside of Girdwood, Eagle River recognizes no such distinctions and regularly votes solely in its own self-interest. Based on its voting patterns, it is clear that it does not consider itself truly a part of the Anchorage community, and certainly not part of the Girdwood and Turnagain Arm communities.

6. The idea that Eagle River and Girdwood have a common connection through Crow Pass Trail, which is a high elevation glacial area of the Chugach National Forest, is laughable, as many others have pointed out. The only geographic connection between District 9 (South Anchorage/Girdwood/Turnagain Arm) and District 10 (Eagle River Valley) is the uninhabited, uninhabitable, inaccessible mountainous wilderness of Chugach State Park. In a practical sense, connecting District 9 to District 10 using Chugach State Park would be like connecting us to District 24 using Turnagain Arm and Cook Inlet. The park may as well be open sea.

7. We should be paired with South Anchorage (District 11), not Eagle River.

Louis L. Theiss

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of May, 2022.

NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR ALASKA
My Commission Expires: _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On May 5, 2022, a copy of the foregoing was served by e-mail on:

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ASHBURN & MASON

By: s/Karina Chambers

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