

2024 Oct-11 AM 01:03
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
N.D. OF ALABAMA

Page 1

PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
REAPPORTIONMENT PUBLIC HEARINGS

NORTHWEST SHOALS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING

September 1, 2021

REPORTED BY: Jan A. Mann, CSR
Veritext Legal Solutions
260 North Joachim Street
Mobile, Alabama 36603

Veritext Legal Solutions

877-373-3660

800.808.4958

EXHIBIT

A P P E A R A N C E S

HEARING OFFICER:

Mr. Dorman Walker

SENATE CHAIR OF REDISTRICTING:

Mr. Jim McClendon

HOUSE CHAIR OF REDISTRICTING:

Mr. Chris Pringle

Veritext Legal Solutions

877-373-3660

800.808.4958

Page 19

sorry. Ask your question again, please, sir.

MR. SMITH: Okay. The other question was
will the redistricting be done by party or race?

HEARING OFFICER: Districting will comply
with the federal and state constitutions and federal
laws, principally the Voting Rights Act which -- all of
which forbid redistricting on the basis of race except
where the state has a strong basis in evidence for
complying with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act to
draw a majority black district.

And in those circumstances where the
state does have a strong basis in evidence, it will draw
majority blank districts. Districts will be drawn
without looking at party affiliation or without looking
at race for the most part. Only in narrow circumstances
allowed by the Supreme Court will race be considered but
after districts have been drawn.

MR. SMITH: Okay. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. And I want
to say that I actually missed part of what I should have
said when I started out that there are guidelines that
are posted on the redistricting committee website that
tell you what the guidelines are for the committee to
draw districts. And generally these are that all
districts must be contiguous; that is, every district

Veritext Legal Solutions

877-373-3660

800.808.4958

Page 20

must be connected to every other district. Districts,
compact districts are favored over less compact
districts.

We try to preserve the cores of existing
districts when we draw new districts. We try to protect
and preserve communities' interests. We also do not
allow contests between incumbents and try to minimize
the number of counties in each district.

Sometimes those various goals come into
conflict, and when they do, it's left up to the
legislative side which one to prioritize but overarching
all of this of course and not subject to being
prioritized because it's always overarching is
compliance with the federal constitution and with laws
such as the Voting Rights Act. Anyone else who would
like to speak?

MR. SMITH: Excuse me. I didn't get the
name of the person that's doing the talking in that
time.

HEARING OFFICER: Me are you saying?

MR. SMITH: Whoever is doing the talking,
what's your name and title?

HEARING OFFICER: My name is Dorman
Walker. I'm a lawyer hired by the committee and serving
as the hearing officer.

Veritext Legal Solutions

877-373-3660

800.808.4958

21-cv-01531
11/12/2024 Trial
Plaintiffs Exhibit 380

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ALABAMA)
MOBILE COUNTY)

I hereby certify that the above
proceedings were taken down by me and transcribed by me
and that the above is a true and correct transcript of
the said proceedings.

I further certify that I am neither of
counsel nor of kin to the parties nor in anywise
financially interested in the outcome of this case.



JAN A. MANN
COMMISSIONER - NOTARY PUBLIC
ACCR NO. 321