ORANGE COUNTY CLERK 05/16/2025 09:23 AM

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 196

INDEX NO. EF002460-2024 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 05/15/2025

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ORANGE HON, MARY ANNE SCATTARETICO-NABER, J.S.C. -----X [To commence the statutory time ORAL CLARKE, ROMANCE REED, GRACE PEREZ, PETER RAMON, ERNEST TIRADO, and DOROTHY FLOURNOY, copy of this order, with notice of Plaintiffs. entry, upon all parties.] Index No. EF002460-2024 -against-

TOWN OF NEWBURGH, and TOWN BOARD OF, THE TOWN OF NEWBURGH, Defendants.

----X

period for appeals as of right (CPLR 5513[a]), you are advised to serve a

SHORT FORM ORDER

Plaintiffs move, by way of letter application, asking the court for the following relief:

(1) for a transfer of this matter to Westchester County, the County designated as the proper venue "in an action or proceeding in which any party challenges the constitutionality of a provision of this chapter ... " pursuant to Election Law Section 16-101; and (2) to hold an expedited hearing.

On May 14, 2025, the Court heard oral argument in response to the Plaintiffs' letter application and Defendants' opposition by letter thereto claiming, inter alia, that the Plaintiffs waived venue in Westchester County by initially filing this proceeding in Orange County, and alluding to, inter alia, forum shopping by the Plaintiffs. The Court reserved decision, scheduling virtual appearances on May 15, 2025, for rendering of that decision.

Now, after due deliberation and consideration of the papers submitted and arguments of counsel, the Court herein grants Plaintiffs' application, finding that the proper venue for this proceeding is Westchester County Supreme Court, the County designated in the Second Judicial Department to hear such proceedings, pursuant to Election Law Section 16-101 (1)(b).

Accordingly, the Chief Clerk of Orange County Supreme Court is herein directed to

transfer this proceeding to Westchester County Supreme Court, forthwith, the Court designated to hear these matters for the Second Department, according to statute, to be scheduled for an expedited hearing in accordance with Election Law § 17-216.

The foregoing constitutes the decision and order of the Court.

Dated: MAN 15, 2025 Goshen, New York ENT RY ANNE SCATTARETICO-NABER, J.S.C.

TO: All parties, via NYSCEF