

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

PAUL NICHOLS, GAVIN WAX, and GARY GREENBERG

Petitioners,

v.

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL, SENATE MAJORITY LEADER AND PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS, SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY CARL HEASTIE, NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AND REAPPORTIONMENT, NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION, KEN JENKINS, DR. JOHN FLATEAU, YOVAN SAMUEL COLLADO, IVELISSE CUEVAS-MOLINA, ELAINE FRAZIER, ROSS BRADY, JOHN CONWAY III, LISA HARRIS, CHARLES NESBITT , and WILLIS H. STEVEN,

Respondents.

**New York County
Index No. 154213/2022**

**Appellate Division
Case No. 2022-02301**

**NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE
COURT OF APPEALS**

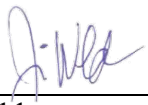
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Petitioners Paul Nichols and Gary Greenberg, pursuant to CPLR § 5601(b), hereby appeal as of right to the New York Court of Appeals from the Decision and Order of the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department, decided on January 24, 2023, filed and entered by Notice of Entry with the Office of the Clerk of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department on January 24, 2023 (NYSCEF No. 194), and Remitted to the Clerk of the Court on January 31, 2023 (NYSCEF No. 198).

This appeal is taken from each and every part of the Decision and Order that aggrieves Petitioners and is appealable by them.

Dated: New York, NY
February 15, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

WALDEN MACHT & HARAN LLP

By: 

Jim Walden
Peter A. Devlin
250 Vesey Street, 27th Floor
New York, NY 10281
Tel: (212) 335-2030
jwalden@wmhllaw.com
pdevlin@wmhllaw.com

Attorneys for Petitioners Paul Nichols and Gary Greenberg

TO: All Counsel on record **via NYSCEF**

LETITIA JAMES, NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attorneys for Respondent Governor Kathy Hochul

Seth Farber
Andrea Trento
Jeffrey Lang
28 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10005
(212) 416-8029
seth.farber@ag.ny.gov
andrea.trento@ag.ny.gov
jeffrey.lang@ag.ny.gov

CUTI HECKER WANG LLP

Attorneys for Respondent Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Eric J. Hecker
Alexandra Goldenberg
Alice G. Reiter
305 Broadway, Suite 607
New York, New York 10007
(212) 620-2600
ehecker@chwllp.com
agoldenberg@chwllp.com
areiter@chwllp.com

GRAUBARD MILLER

Attorneys for Respondent Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie

C. Daniel Chill

Joseph H. Lessem
Elaine M. Reich
The Chrysler Building
405 Lexington Avenue, 11th Floor
New York, New York 10174
(212) 818-8800
dchill@graubard.com
jlessem@graubard.com
ereich@graubard.com

PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP
Attorneys for Respondent Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie
Craig R. Bucki
Steven B. Salcedo
Rebecca A. Valentine
One Canalside
125 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14203-2887
Telephone No. (716) 847-8400
cbucki@phillipslytle.com
ssalcedo@phillipslytle.com
rvalentine@phillipslytle.com

NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Attorneys for Respondent
Kevin G. Murphy
Brian Lee Quail
Aaron K. Suggs
New York State Board of Elections
40 N. Pearl Street, Suite 5
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 474-2063
kevin.murphy@elections.ny.gov
brian.quail@elections.ny.gov
aaron.suggs@elections.ny.gov

MESSINA PERILLO HILL LLP
Attorneys for Ross Brady, John Conway III, Lisa Harris, Charles Nesbitt, and Willis H. Stephens
Timothy Hill
285 West Main Street, Suite 203
Sayville, New York 11782
(613) 582-9422
thill@mphlawgroup.com

JENNER & BLOCK LLP

*Attorneys for David Imamura, Ken Jenkins, Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina, Elaine Frazier,
Yovan Samuel Collado, and John Flateau*

Jacob D. Alderdice

Allison N. Douglis

1155 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

(212) 891-1600

jalderdice@jenner.com

adouglis@jenner.com

Jessica R. Amunson

Samuel Hirsch

1099 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 900

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 639-6000

jamunson@jenner.com

shirsch@jenner.com

STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT : COUNTY OF NEW YORK

PAUL NICHOLS, GAVIN WAX, and GARY
GREENBERG,

Petitioners,

v.

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL, SENATE MAJORITY
LEADER AND PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE
SENATE ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS, SPEAKER OF
THE ASSEMBLY CARL HEASTIE, NEW YORK STATE
BOARD OF ELECTIONS, NEW YORK STATE
LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON DEMOGRAPHIC
RESEARCH AND REAPPORTIONMENT, NEW YORK
STATE INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING
COMMISSION, KEN JENKINS, DR. JOHN FLATEAU,
YOVAN SAMUEL COLLADO, IVELISSE CUEVAS-
MOLINA, ELAINE FRAZIER, ROSS BRADY, JOHN
CONWAY III, LISA HARRIS, CHARLES NESBITT, and
WILLIS H. STEVEN,

Respondents.

NOTICE OF ENTRY

A.D. Case No.
2022-04649

New York County
Index No.
154213/2022

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Decision and Order (First Department
NYSCEF Dkt. No. 24), a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A**, was duly filed and
entered in this special proceeding in the Office of the Clerk of the New York State Supreme
Court, Appellate Division, First Department, on January 24, 2023.

LAW OFFICE OF AARON S. FOLDENAUER

Aaron S. Foldenauer, Esq.
Attorneys for Petitioner
Gavin Wax
30 Wall Street, 8th Floor
New York, New York 10005
(212) 961-6505
aaron@nyelectionlaw.com

CUTI HECKER WANG LLP

Eric Hecker, Alexander Goldenberg, and Alice Reiter, Esqs.
Attorneys for Respondent
Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins
305 Broadway, Suite 607
New York, New York 10007
(212) 620-2600
ehecker@chwllp.com
areiter@chwllp.com
agoldenberg@chwllp.com

LETITIA JAMES, NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Seth Farber, Esq.
Attorneys for Respondent
Governor Kathy Hochul
28 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10005
(212) 416-8029
seth.farber@ag.ny.gov

NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Brian Quail, Kevin Murphy, and Aaron Suggs, Esqs.
Attorneys for Respondent
New York State Board of Elections
40 N. Pearl Street, Suite 5
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 474-2063
brian.quail@elections.ny.gov
kevin.murphy@elections.ny.gov
aaron.suggs@elections.ny.gov

JENNER & BLOCK LLP

Allison N. Douglass and Jacob D. Alderdice, Esqs.
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
(212) 303-2505
adouglass@jenner.com
jalderdice@jenner.com

Jessica Ring Amunson and Samuel Hirsch, Esqs.
1099 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 70001-4412
(202) 639-6023
jamunson@jenner.com
shirsch@jenner.com

Attorneys for Respondents
Ken Jenkins, Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina, and Elaine Frazier

PERILLO HILL LLP

Timothy F. Hill, Esq.
Attorneys for Respondents
Ross Brady, John Conway III, Lisa Harris, Charles Nesbitt, and Willis H Stephens, Jr.
285 W Main Street, Suite 203
Sayville, New York 11782
(631) 582-9422
thill@mphilawgroup.com

Dr. John Flateau
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, New York 10007

Yovan Samuel Collado
New York State Independent Redistricting Commission
250 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, New York 10007

The New York State Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and
Reapportionment
198 State Street
Lobby
Albany, New York 12210

Notice of Entry
Exhibit A

Supreme Court of the State of New York

Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Renwick, J.P., Gesmer, Moulton, Kennedy, Mendez, JJ.

17266 In the Matter of PAUL NICHOLS et al.,
Petitioners-Appellants,

Index No. 154213/22
Case No. 2022-04649

-against-

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL et al.,
Respondents-Respondents.

Walden Macht & Haran LLP, New York (Peter A. Devlin of counsel), for Paul Nichols and Gary Greenberg, appellants.

Law Office of Aaron S. Foldenauer, New York (Aaron S. Foldenauer of counsel), for Gavin Wax, appellant.

Letitia James, Attorney General, New York (Andrea W. Trento of counsel), for Governor Kathy Hochul, respondent.

Phillips Lytle LLP, Buffalo (Craig R. Bucki of counsel) and Graubard Miller, New York (Elaine Reich of counsel), for Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie, respondent.

Cuti Hecker Wang LLP, New York (Alice G. Reiter of counsel), for Senate Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore of the Senate Andrea Stewart-Cousins, respondent.

Jenner and Block, LLP, New York (Jacob D. Alderdice of counsel), for Ken Jenkins, John Flateau, Yovan Samuel Collado, Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina and Elaine Frazier, respondents.

Order, Supreme Court, New York County (Laurence L. Love, J.), entered October 12, 2022, which, to the extent appealed from, ordered that the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) initiate the constitutional process for amending the New York State Assembly maps, conduct public hearings consistent with NY Const, art III, § 4(c), make plans, data and information available for the public to view at least 30

days prior to the first public meeting, submit to the legislature an Assembly redistricting plan or plans and implementing legislation by April 28, 2023, to be voted upon by the legislature in a single bill, ordered that if either house of the legislature failed to approve the implementing legislation, or if the Governor vetoed such legislation, that the IRC would, within 15 days and in no case later than June 16, 2023, prepare a second redistricting plan and implementing legislation, and ordered that if either the legislature failed to approve the second plan and implementing legislation, or if the Governor vetoed it, then the legislature would introduce such implementing legislation with any amendments deemed necessary, unanimously affirmed, without costs.

In a prior decision, this Court declared that the February 2022 New York State Assembly map was invalid due to procedural infirmities (*Matter of Nichols v Hochul*, 206 AD3d 463, 464 [1st Dept 2022], *lv dismissed* 38 NY3d 1053 [2022]). We remanded to Supreme Court for consideration of the proper means of redrawing the Assembly map in accordance with NY Const, art III, § 5-b (*id.*). Consistent with our prior order, Supreme Court then ordered that the Assembly map be redrawn through the IRC process set forth in NY Const, art III, and set deadlines for the IRC to prepare maps, as the deadlines contained in NY Const, art III, § 4(b) had passed. We endorse the procedures adopted by the court, find that they constitute appropriate remedial measures for a constitutional violation, and find that the remedy is consistent with the procedures set forth in the Constitution.

NY Const, art III, § 5-b requires that an IRC be established to determine district lines, including in cases such as this, where a court has ordered that districts be amended. The IRC procedures control the redistricting process, except to the extent that a court is *required* to forego them in order to adopt a plan as a remedy for a violation of

law (NY Const, art III, § 4[e]). The Constitution does not mandate any particular remedial action when a violation of law has occurred and authorizes broad judicial oversight of remedial action when the courts find that it is necessary (*see Matter of Harkenrider v Hochul*, 38 NY3d 494, 523 [2022]). Thus, in the absence of a viable legislative plan, a court may order the adoption of a redistricting plan with the assistance of a special master, as an appropriate remedial measure (*Harkenrider* at 522, 523). Yet the Constitution also favors a legislative resolution when available (*see* NY Const, art III, §§ 4[e], 5, 5-b[a]; *see also Wise v Lipscomb*, 437 US 535, 540 [1978]), and does not expressly limit the potential remedies a court may order to facilitate a viable legislative plan.

Here, a viable legislative plan is available, as contemplated by NY Const, art III, § 5-b. The court's order setting deadlines for, among other things, the IRC's submission of maps, in order to facilitate such a plan, was an appropriate remedial measure which is not prohibited by NY Const, art III, § 4(e). Contrary to petitioners' contention, the remedial measures chosen by the court in *Harkenrider* are not required here. In *Harkenrider*, the constitutional violation could not be cured by a process involving the legislature and the IRC, given the time constraints created by the electoral calendar (38 NY3d at 523). The Court of Appeals recognized that the Constitution explicitly gives courts oversight over remedial action in the wake of a determination of unconstitutionality, and it then endorsed the remedial measures chosen by Supreme Court, which included appointment of a special master (*id.*). There is much more time available in this case than there was in *Harkenrider* for the IRC and legislative procedures to proceed and conclude prior to the next election cycle, thereby allowing for a reasonable opportunity for the legislature to meet its constitutional requirements. We

therefore endorse the remedial measures chosen by Supreme Court.

We have considered petitioners' remaining arguments and find them unavailing.

THIS CONSTITUTES THE DECISION AND ORDER
OF THE SUPREME COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION, FIRST DEPARTMENT.

ENTERED: January 24, 2023



Susanna Molina Rojas
Clerk of the Court