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U. S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Western District of Virginia

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January 25, 2019

Clerk of Court
Circuit Court of Culpeper County
Attn: Civil Division
135 W. Cameron Street
Culpeper, VA 22701

Re:

Michael V. McClary, et al. v. Scott H. Jenkins, et al.

Case No. CL18001373-00

Dear Madam:

Enclosed please find the original and one copy of the United States' Motion to Stay Deadline to File Statement of Interest to be filed in the above-referenced case. Please return the copy stamped "Filed" to this office in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

A copy of the Motion to Stay has been furnished to all interested parties.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS T. CULLEN United States Attorney

Y lang H. Withers

Paralegal, Civil Division

Enclosures

cc: All Parties on Certificate of Service (w/enc.)

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CULPEPER

MICHAEL V. McCLARY,)
and)) .
CHRISTINA STOCKTON,)
Plaintiffs,)
V) Case No. CL18001373-00
SCOTT H. JENKINS, in his official capacity as Sheriff of Culpeper County,)))
and)
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CULPEPER COUNTY,)`))
Defendants.)

MOTION TO STAY DEADLINE TO FILE STATEMENT OF INTEREST

- 1. The United States of America hereby respectfully notifies the Court that it is currently considering filing a statement of interest in this case under its statutory authority to file in any court of the United States a statement in support of its interests, as provided in 28 U.S.C. §§ 517 & 518.1
- 2. At the end of the day on December 21, 2018, the appropriations act that had been funding the Department of Justice expired and appropriations to the Department lapsed. The Department does not know when funding will be restored by Congress.

¹ Specifically, 28 U.S.C. § 517 provides that "[t]he Solicitor General, or any officer of the Department of Justice, may be sent by the Attorney General to any State or district in the United States to attend to the interests of the United States in a suit pending in a court of the United States, or in a court of a State, or to attend to any other interest of the United States." And 28 U.S.C. § 518 permits the Attorney General or his designee to "conduct and argue suits and appeals" in which "the United States is interested," and, when he "considers it in the interests of the United States," to "personally conduct and argue any case in a court of the United States in which the United States is interested, or he may direct the Solicitor General or any officer of the Department of Justice to do so."

- 3. Absent appropriation, Department of Justice attorneys are prohibited from working, even on a voluntary basis, except in very limited circumstances, including "emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property." 31 U.S.C. § 1342.
- 4. Undersigned counsel for the Department of Justice therefore respectfully requests that, at this point, the Court permit the United States to file a statement of interest, if the United States determines that it will file one, at a date after appropriations have been restored.
- 5. Undersigned counsel will notify the Court as soon as Congress has appropriated funds for the Department.
- 6. Therefore, although we greatly regret any disruption caused to the Court and the other litigants, the Government hereby requests that it be permitted to file a statement of interest at a date after Department of Justice attorneys are permitted to resume their usual civil litigation functions.

Date: January 25, 2019

Respectfully submitted, THOMAS T. CULLEN United States Attorney

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 25th day of January, 2019, I caused a true copy of the

foregoing Motion to Stay to be mailed, first class postage prepaid, to the following:

Vishal Agraharkar, Esquire American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Virginia 701 E. Franklin Street, Suite 1412 Richmond, VA 23219 Counsel for Plaintiffs

Dale G. Mullen, Esquire Casey E. Lucier, Esquire Travis C. Gunn, Esquire Ashley P. Peterson, Esquire McGuire Woods LLP 800 East Canal Street Richmond, VA 23219 Counsel for Plaintiffs

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