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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**  
**IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

v.

**AUSTIN COLE SMITH (001),**

Defendant.

Cause No:

**96 SGJ 73**

**INDICTMENT**

CHARGING VIOLATIONS OF:

**COUNT 1: FRAUDULENT SCHEMES  
AND PRACTICES**, a Class 5 Felony, in  
violation of A.R.S. § 13-2311(A)

**COUNTS 2-4: PRESENTMENT OF  
FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING**,  
Class 6 Felonies, in violation of A.R.S. §  
39-161

**COUNTS 5-14: ILLEGAL SIGNING OF  
ELECTION PETITIONS**, Class 1  
Misdemeanors, in violation of A.R.S. § 16-  
1020

The State Grand Jury accuses **AUSTIN COLE SMITH (001)**, charging on this  
2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2025, that in or from Maricopa County, Arizona:

### **COUNT 1**

#### **FRAUDULENT SCHEMES AND PRACTICES, A CLASS 5 FELONY**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, during a period of time beginning on or about April 18, 2023, and ending on or about April 19, 2024, in a matter related to the business conducted by the Arizona Secretary of State's Office, pursuant to a scheme or artifice to defraud or deceive, did make or use petitions containing forged elector signatures, a false writing or document knowing it contained a false or fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-2311, 13-701, 13-702, and 13-801.

### **COUNT 2**

#### **PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING, A CLASS 6 FELONY**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 22, 2024, did acknowledge, certify, notarize, procure, or offer to be filed, registered or recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, a public office in this state, a petition circulator verification, an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered, or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 39-161, 13-701, 13-702, and 13-801.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH falsely completed the verification on the back of petition #24.

### **COUNT 3**

#### **PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING, A CLASS 6 FELONY**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 22, 2024, did acknowledge, certify, notarize, procure, or offer to be filed, registered or recorded in the office of the Arizona Secretary of State, a public office in this state, a petition circulator verification, an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered, or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 39-161, 13-701, 13-702, and 13-801.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH falsely completed the verification on the back of petition #26.

**COUNT 4**

**PRESENTMENT OF FALSE INSTRUMENT FOR FILING, A CLASS 6 FELONY**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 22, 2024, did acknowledge, certify, notarize, procure, or offer to be filed, registered or recorded in the office of the Arizona Secretary of State, a public office in this state, a petition circulator verification, an instrument he knew to be false or forged, which, if genuine, could be filed, registered, or recorded under any law of this state or the United States, or in compliance with established procedure, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 39-161, 13-701, 13-702, and 13-801.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH falsely completed the verification on the back of petition #27.

**COUNT 5**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Enrique Sandoval on line 2 of petition #24.

**COUNT 6**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Nancy Gray on line 2 of petition #26.

**COUNT 7**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name William Mitchum on line 6 of petition #26.

**COUNT 8**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Loreen O'Moore on line 7 of petition #24.

**COUNT 9**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Christine English on line 9 of petition #26.

**COUNT 10**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 17, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Treena Anderson on line 10 of petition #26.

**COUNT 11**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 15, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Nicole Lamb on line 3 of petition #27.

**COUNT 12**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 15, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Patrick Guy on line 7 of petition #27.

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**COUNT 13**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 16, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Bruce Bell on line 1 of petition #28.

**COUNT 14**

**ILLEGAL SIGNING OF ELECTION PETITIONS, A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR**

AUSTIN COLE SMITH, on or about March 15, 2024, knowingly did sign any name other than his own to a nominating petition or a petition for formation, alteration, or dissolution of a special district, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 16-1020, 16-101, 16-121, 13-707, and 13-802.

Said conduct occurred when AUSTIN COLE SMITH signed the name Daniel Hernandez on line 5 of petition #56.

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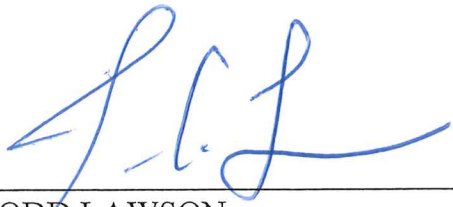
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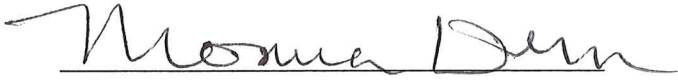
Pursuant to A.R.S. § 21-425, the Grand Jurors find that the offenses described above were committed in Maricopa County, Arizona.

True Bill  
(A "True Bill")

KRISTIN K. MAYES  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ARIZONA

  
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TODD LAWSON  
Assistant Attorney General

Dated: 6-2-25

  
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Foreperson of the Grand Jury