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OEPUTY CLERK 1 **MARK BRNOVICH** ATTORNEY GENERAL 2 (Firm Bar No. 14000) RICHARD L. BAEK (Bar No. 025256) 3 Assistant Attorneys General 4 2005 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, Arizona 85004 5 Telephone: (602) 542-7932 Facsimile: (602) 542-4377 6 Richard.Baek@azag.gov 7 Attorneys for State of Arizona 8 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA 9 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA 10 11 STATE OF ARIZONA, ex rel. Case No: UV 2018-013600 MARK BRNOVICH, Attorney General, 12 Plaintiff, 13 14 **COMPLAINT** v. 15 SCOTT TOMLINSON, (Non-classified: Action in Quo Warranto) 16 Defendant. 17 (Assigned to the Hon. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Plaintiff, the State of Arizona, *ex rel*. Mark Brnovich, Attorney General ("the State"), brings this action in *quo warranto* to obtain relief against Defendant Scott Tomlinson, and for its Complaint alleges as follows:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. This Complaint relates to an action in *quo warranto* whereby Mr. Tomlinson unlawfully holds the position of governing board member for the Window Rock Unified School District.
- 2. Mr. Tomlinson was at all times required to comply with the prerequisites set forth by Arizona law regarding the qualifications of an elected official.
- 3. Mr. Tomlinson, at the time of his election, was not qualified to hold office pursuant to Arizona law.
- 4. Therefore, the State of Arizona now brings this action seeking his removal from office pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-2041 *et seq*.

## II. JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND PARTIES

- 5. This Complaint is filed under A.R.S. § 12-2041 *et seq.*, which expressly authorizes the State to bring this action.
  - 6. Jurisdiction is proper under A.R.S. § 12-2041(A).
- 7. Venue in Maricopa County is proper for all claims pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-401(17) and A.R.S. § 12-2041(A).
  - 8. Defendant Scott Tomlinson resides in Apache County, Arizona.

## III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 9. Under A.R.S. § 15-421, governing board members of school districts in Arizona are subject to certain qualifications at the time of election.
- 10. Mr. Tomlinson filed his Affidavit of Qualification for the Window Rock Unified School District governing board on August 9, 2016.
  - 11. Mr. Tomlinson signed and swore on his Affidavit of Qualification that he would

be qualified at the time of election to hold office.

- 12. Mr. Tomlinson was elected to the Window Rock Unified School District governing board in 2016.
- 13. Mr. Tomlinson was not, in fact, qualified to hold office at the time of his election.
- 14. Under A.R.S. § 15-421(C), a governing board member of a school district must be "[a] person who is a registered voter of this state ...."
- 15. Mr. Tomlinson was not registered to vote in the State of Arizona at the time of his election.
- 16. In fact, Mr. Tomlinson was not a registered voter in the State of Arizona until June 28, 2018; approximately two years after assuming office.
- 17. Furthermore, Mr. Tomlinson, through counsel, admits that he was not registered to vote in the State of Arizona at the time of his election.
- 18. Mr. Tomlinson, as of the date of this Complaint, has refused to resign and continues to hold office.

#### IV. CLAIMS

# COUNT I – VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 15-421 et seq.

- 19. The allegations set forth in the previous paragraphs are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 20. Under, A.R.S. § 15-421(C), governing board member of a school district must be "[a] person who is a registered voter of this state ...."
- 21. Because Defendant Mr. Tomlinson was not a registered voter in Arizona at the time of his election as a governing board member of the Window Rock Unified School District, he unlawfully assumed, and now unlawfully holds and exercises, that public office.