GOVERNMENT OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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WEDNESDAY

MAY 3, 2023

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The District of Columbia Board of Elections convened via Video Teleconference, pursuant to notice at 10:00 a.m. EDT, Gary Thompson, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY THOMPSON, Chair
J.C. BOGGS, Member
KARYN GREENFIELD, Member

BOARD OF ELECTIONS STAFF PRESENT:

MONICA HOLMAN EVANS, Director
TERRI STROUD, General Counsel
WILLIAM SANFORD, Office of Campaign Finance, General Counsel
C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

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CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Good morning everybody. I see we have a court reporter on and this meeting's also being recorded. This is our first in-person meeting since the COVID pandemic's over.

So welcome, we have a couple members of the public here with us and also it looks like a few dozen by Zoom. So we'll continue this hybrid approach as we go forward and I think it will work out nicely, you know, including for those who can't make it down here physically and would still like to participate by Zoom. So a continued welcome for everybody out there in Zoom land.

My name's Gary Thompson, the Chair of the Board of Elections. All three members of our Board are here today, so we have a quorum.

We don't have a very full agenda today. One quick housekeeping item, our
minutes from our last meeting of April 4th have been distributed and reviewed by the Board members, and at this time, I would move we adopt those minutes.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right, all in favor?

(Chorus of aye.)

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank you, Karyn. So the minutes are adopted.

No, I don't have any Board matters to raise or anything. So hearing no Board matters, we will turn to the executive director's report from Monica Evans.

MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair and good morning to all. Even though the Board of Elections had its budget oversight hearing on March 28th, we continue to answer questions and provide information to the Council.

Yes, ma'am. Even though the Board of Elections had its budget oversight hearing on March 28th, we continued to answer questions and provide information to the Council in
April.

In particular, we provided additional information and clarification regarding needed resources to become compliant with the Elections Modernization Amendment Act and the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act. Council committees concluded budget mark-ups on April 28th, and we are waiting to receive information regarding final decisions about our FY-2024 budget.

On April 3rd, I participated on a panel as part of the Vote at Home webinar series. I talked about the Board's signature verification and cure processes. I also attended the Election Assistance Commission Standards Board meeting on April 18th and April 19th.

As required by our regulations, the Board is looking at our current precinct boundaries to divide the District into appropriate voting precincts based on our election wards. We are working with Gottlieb
Simon to complete this task.

We have 11 ANC vacancies for the 2023-2025 term. These positions are in different stages of being filled. After candidate filing requirements are met, an open vote of registered voters of the affected SMD will be held during regularly scheduled ANC meetings.

As far as 2023 next steps and planning for the 2024 election cycle, we are reviewing the requirements of the Elections Modernization Amendment Act and the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act to ensure we become compliant.

We have had several conversations with our database vendor to determine what is needed to augment our current systems. We will need to create a data visualization interface on our website and create a database solution to house non-citizens who register to vote in local elections.

We are in the process of revising

Additionally, we are updating the election worker training manual, developing the 2024 voter education and outreach plan, and assessing our plan for vote center and mail ballot drop box locations. We joined a cross-state data work group to explore ways to share voter history to address cross-state voter fraud.

Even though we are a member of ERIC, the Electronic Registration Information Center, many states are not members. Our participation with this work group will allow us to engage with more states.

Subgroups have met to discuss the
development of a legal MOU and data sharing.  
During the month of April, the Voter Education  
and Outreach Division conducted five outreach  
events on behalf of the agency.  

Events included a voter registration  
drive at the Department on Aging and Community  
Living, and a voter registration drive voting  
equipment and accessibility resources  
demonstration with the Mayor's Office of Deaf,  
Deaf Blind, and Hard of Hearing.  

In April, we registered 2,087 new  
voters, and processed 3,515 registration  
changes. In total, we prepared 5,602  
registration cards to be mailed.  

Additionally, 30 registered voters  
moved out of D.C., 20 voters cancelled their  
registrations and registered with other  
jurisdictions, and 1,197 voters registered in  
D.C. after cancelling their registrations in  
other states.  

We are continuing to register voters  
using our website portal. To date, we have
processed over 35,000 applications using the portal. These include new voter registrations and updates to existing registrations, and that concludes my report. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right.

Thank you very much. Terri Stroud, General Counsel?

MS. STROUD: Good morning, everyone.

The only item I have on my agenda is litigation status. We have four current matters, the first is Public Interest Legal Foundation v Monica Evans in her official capacity as Executive Director for the Board, and that is in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

This matter was filed under the NVRA, the National Voter Registration Act. The suit alleges that the Board is out of compliance with the NVRA's public records provision.

The Office of the Attorney General filed a motion to dismiss on the Board's behalf
on February 3rd of 2022. The plaintiff filed a
response on February 17th, and the OAG filed a
reply on March 17th.

On April 10th, 2023, Judge Reyes, to
whom the case was assigned after the initial
Judge was appointed to the D.C. circuit denied
the motion to dismiss and issued a standing
order directing the parties to file a joint
status report that updates the court on any
developments including settlement discussions,
and to propose a briefing schedule that may
address the refiling of motions. The status
report was timely filed on May 1st.

And the next three matters have to
do with petitions for Enforcement of Office of
Campaign Finance Orders related to the January
31st, 2021, report of receipts and
expenditures.

The first matter is the D.C. Board
of Elections v Lamont Ferell, and all of these
matters are in Superior Court for the District
of Columbia. D.C. Board of Elections v Lamont
Ferell was filed in the court on February 15th of this year. March 17th, show cause hearing was continued to April 4th to allow the Board to pursue Service of Process on Mr. Ferell. And on April 4th, the Judge in chambers granted a further extension until July 5th, 2023, to allow the Board to pursue service because mail has been returned undeliverable.

The D.C. Board of Elections v Jacque Patterson, this was filed on January 25th, 2023. The case had been set for an initial status hearing before Judge Dayson on April 28th, but on April 6th, the Court sua sponte continued the date for the initial status hearing to May 19th, 2023.

And finally, we have Stacia Hall v the D.C. Board of Elections. This is in the Superior Court as well. On March 14th, the plaintiffs filed a challenge to the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 on the grounds that the Constitution precludes non-citizens from voting. An initial status
hearing is scheduled before Judge Puig-Lugo on June 23rd, 2023. And that concludes my report.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so much. I guess with respect to the latter case, Stacia Hall, there's plenty of time left in the year for the Court to address that matter, but we're essentially moving full speed ahead with implementation of the Council's act in that regard unless and until the Court finds otherwise. Is that a fair statement?

MS. STROUD: Well, there's a funding issue with respect to the legislation, so --

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Yes, apart from funding.

MS. STROUD: Apart from funding.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Hopefully that will fall into place soon, okay. I guess we're up to the campaign finance report. General Counsel Bill Sanford is here.

MR. SANFORD: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, and distinguished Board members,
William Sanford representing the Office of Campaign Finance this morning.

I will give the director's report a summary of that report. In the Office of Campaign Finance, there are currently 16 post-election audits that are in progress from the 2020 general election campaign.

In addition to the 16 audits from the 2020 election cycle, there are two completed audits from the 2022 election cycle, and they include the following. The Elissa for D.C. principal campaign committee, that audit statements was issued on the 23rd of April 2023. On the Reelect Charles Allen, Ward 6 principal campaign audit, that audit statement was issued on the 25th of April 2023.

In the Constituent Services Program, there were six reports of receipts and expenditures that were required. All six were timely filed. Senators, representatives, and state head funds, there were three required filers, all three were timely filed.
And the Political Action Committee, there were 45 required reports that were due by April 10th -- 43 were timely filed, one extension was granted, and there was one failure to timely file which was referred to the Office of the General Counsel.

Independent Expenditure Committees, there were eight required filers, and all eight timely filed. And under the Advisory Neighborhood Commission filers, there was a total of 458 required filers during the 2022 election cycle with 352 timely filed, six requested extensions, and 100 were referred to the Office of the General Counsel.

That's a pretty high number, but we are getting feedback from a lot of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners who seem to confuse filing the summary financial statement for the ANC race with the financial disclosure statements. So some believe that they are filing their FDS with BEGA. They admit their obligations to the Office of Campaign Finance.
So we're in the process of resolving those outstanding 100 reports.

In the Office of the General Counsel, during the month of April 2023, the Office of the General Counsel received 1,100 referrals of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners who failed to timely file, and those matters are currently under review.

The office completed 17 informal hearings and issued six orders, which include the following: four orders were issued in which a total of $10,550 in fines were imposed, and two orders were issued in which no fines were imposed.

During the month of April 2023, the Office of the General Counsel imposed fines against the following respondents. A fine of $3,500 was imposed against the Money Supply Initiative Committee. A fine of $3,500 was imposed against the U.S. Citizens Recovery Initiative Committee. A fine of $3,500 was imposed against the D.C. Recovery Act for
descendants, and finally a fine of $50 was imposed against the Elizabeth Davis Pathway Policy Act of 2022.

During the month of April 2023, there were no requests for interpretive opinion, no investigations were opened, and no show cause proceedings were conducted.

The contents of the director's report and the General Counsel's report will be published at the Office of Campaign Finance website by close of business today, May 3rd, 2023, and that should conclude my report.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Sounds like with respect to the ANC Commissioners, there's some improvement in communication somewhere between OCF and BEGA that is forthcoming?

MR. SANFORD: Yes, we actually conduct a training for ANCs, and we go out into the commissions, and we emphasize -- and one is actually going to occur this evening. We emphasize if you have not filed your summary financial statement for the 2023 election
cycle, you could face fines. So it's imperative that they file those, and so we have -- our training officer is in regular contact with the commissions.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. Great. Anything else? Okay. Well, that concludes the regular part of our agenda. Like I said, it's pretty a light agenda today, so we'd like to hear from our D.C. residents, starting with those who are present.

You don't have to comment but if you'd like, you can come up to the mic and state your name and address and please take, you know, three minutes or so to give us your comment, and welcome.

MS. BRIZILL: Good morning, my name is Dorothy Brizill, I'm the Executive Director of D.C. Watch. Our mailing address is 1327 Girard Street NW. Mr. Chairman, I would like to take a few moments to essentially review some issues that arose at the last Board meeting which occurred on April the 5th, not
only to raise them but to make sure I correct
the record.

And let me hand something up to you
prior to doing that. I apologize that some of
the sheets are blank. At the last Board
meeting, I raised matters that are of concern
to me, and they revolved around essentially
four issues. I made an inquiry and indicated
that I had repeatedly been seeking information
from the staff of the Board of Elections
regarding four issues. What were the budget
enhancements that the agency was seeking for
the 2024 budget?

The condition of the warehouse and
what that condition was, and whether or not
there were any contingency plans to move out of
the warehouse prior to the '24 election,
updates and repairs that needed to in cleaning
up the website as well as the voter rolls.

The great thing about the Board of
Elections as opposed to dealing with most other
D.C. government agencies is there is a record.
You have a court reporter who keeps a
transcript, as well as it is possible to review
the record on Zoom.

When I reviewed the record, it
refreshed my memory as regards to the response
I got to my reasonable inquiry about the
budget, about the warehouse, about the website,
and about the voter rolls. Namely, Monica
Evans responded that all the information I was
seeking had been made available to the Council.

All of the information I was seeking
was on the Board of Elections website and/or
had been provided to the D.C. Office of Budget
and Performance Management. Of course, she
didn't acknowledge or want to admit that I was
asking the Board for that information, not the
Council, and not the Office of Budget and
Performance Management.

I must tell you that the Chairman's
response to me was the most earth shattering
that I had experienced in all my years of
dealing with the Board of Elections.
Falsely, you claim that the Board staff has responded to all my emails, telephone calls, and requests for information in a timely and thorough manner, that the Board's process was in fact transparent, and that all of the information I could want was available from the Council or on the Board of Elections website.

That is patently not true.

Even if some of the information is available through the Council, the point is D.C. law specifically states that it is the public policy of the District of Columbia that citizens are entitled to request information from the government.

Section 2-532 also goes on to specifically mention access to public records and information which must be made public. Now I frankly don't know what has led to this transformation of the Board of Elections, which used to be open and transparent and a pretty well-run agency, but this will not stand.

I will tell you this will not stand.
So you've either got to realize that you answer to the public, and when the public requests information, especially in a detailed email or in a telephone call, that you have to respond.

And you cannot take an adversarial position regarding citizens. That will not stand. I await the response.

CHAIRMAN. THOMPSON: All right. Thank you so for your comment, much appreciated. As I mentioned in the last meeting, I'm not necessarily privy to email exchanges with information requests.

It's not really the Board's job to micromanage those types of communications, although from everything I've personally seen, all of your email requests have been answered. You sound frustrated.

Nevertheless, you of course are fully entitled to file a formal D.C. FOIA request. If you feel like the agency is not responsive to your FOIA request, you obviously have rights to take the matter to court to have
a court scrutinize whether we have in fact been adequately responsive, and I think you obviously understand that.

So in the meantime, your email requests of I guess of an informal nature, some of which I've seen asking for information, you know, ASAP, today. I mean the agency's busy, there's a lot to do.

Nevertheless, I've seen people react quickly and thoroughly and provide you information that's responsive to your requests, so I don't, you know. I don't know if we can — this isn't like really the place to debate whether, you know, every aspect of what you would like to see has been answered to your satisfaction.

I can only say that from everything I've seen, I commend our agency staff for being responsive, and, you know, you obviously have rights to carry on with requests for information.

I don't know if you're a D.C.
citizen, and I don't know if you personally reside in D.C., but I know you're affiliated with a media organization that you say has offices at 1327 Girard Street NW. I tried to look it up, and it looks like it's an inactive organization, so I don't know what kind of standing it would have. But somewhere between you and your organization, I'm sure you have the ability to raise issues further.

MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Chairman, if I could just respond. I mean, Mr. Chairman, do you know how inappropriate and outrageous your comments are? The reason why I came down here today is because you cannot cut me off; you cannot cut the microphone off as you do during the Zoom meetings.

But let me just say this, the good thing about the Board of Elections is -- one, there is a transcript of the meeting, you can go and try to request a copy of the meeting through Zoom. But moreover, with regard to my request for information from the Board, I have
I have never, Mr. Chairman, never asked for information and asked and said I want it that day, or I want it immediately, I have never said that. Moreover, Mr. Chairman, for you to do research on me, Mr. Chairman, do you realize the important role you as Chairman of the Board of Elections have?

And for you to try to turn the tables on me and say, oh, well, your organization is inactive, or what have you, who the hell cares? I believe the Council and the Mayor at her press conference call on me and believe I have an active organization.

So for you to try to denigrate me by making a personal -- what you think is a personal slight, it just confirms that you are inappropriate and should be immediately removed as Chairman of the Board of Elections. You don't know how to do the job. You don't know how to represent citizens.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right.
Thank you for your comment.

MS. STROUD: Ms. Brizill, to the extent -- that you send repeated requests for information, and in my responses, I have said that to the extent that these can be construed as FOIA requests, we will provide records that are responsive to your request, but I've also indicated that FOIA does not require the Board to respond to queries.

FOIA does not require the Board to create records in response to queries, so I've given you the standard response. We have a FOIA page, we have a FOIA portal that citizens can go to to request information formally.

There is a process for that, and you can send email, which you have, and to the extent that I have construed them as records, I don't know that we haven't provided records that were responsive to your requests, but you can go back through your correspondence, and if there are instances where records have not been provided, please bring them to my attention,
and we can, you know, work to resolve that issue.

MS. BRIZILL: Are you familiar with Section 2-532 of the D.C. Code?

MS. STROUD: Yes, I am.

MS. BRIZILL: Right of access to public records.

MS. STROUD: Yes, I am.

MS. BRIZILL: It specifically says the citizens have the right to public records.

MS. STROUD: You're correct.

MS. BRIZILL: Without having to file a FOIA. You have decided that every request for information is turned into a FOIA request, and that is not in keeping with D.C. law.

MS. STROUD: What you're citing is the Freedom of Information Act statute, which deals with public records. So you're citing the FOIA statute. So the provision that you're citing is the Freedom of Information Act. So since you're citing that, what else should I look through to determine? What else should I
look to?

MS. BRIZILL: You should look to Section 2-531, that says the public policy of the District of Columbia is to make all records available.

MS. STROUD: Okay.

MS. BRIZILL: Okay, okay? And what you have tried to do, and what your so-called public information office has done is either ignore or drag it out and deny.

I mean, if I ask for something I know you readily have, I either get no response, or you try to turn to into a FOIA, okay? The bottom line is this: regardless of you, me, Mr. Thompson, or whatever, the Board of Elections must be the most public, friendly, accessible entity in the District of Columbia, and it's not.

MS. STROUD: To the extent that we have not provided records, please bring them to my attention.

MS. BRIZILL: I'm not talking about
records, I'm talking about the general attitude of you people sitting up there. You don't understand the extent to which you need to listen to the public, you need to be responsive to the public, and you don't need to create an adversarial position with the public.

I have never, even when I have testified before the Council on a bill that I strongly disagreed with, have had such an adversarial relationship with a government entity, and I don't know why you're doing this.

I think I know why you're doing it. And since Mr. Thompson wants to go there, I will tell you. You guys are hiding something, you guys are hiding something. And I'll be damned if it's not found out.

The situation over at the warehouse is deplorable. You had one warehouse, and then what do you do? You lease another adjacent warehouse that has no potable water, doesn't have toilets, poor lighting, no ventilation. We should not be working in those conditions,
and you know it, but when Dorothy asked about
the warehouse, oh, don't respond.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Ms. Brizill,

thank you.

MS. BRIZILL: Mr. Thompson, have you
been to the warehouse?

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you.

Excuse me, all right, excuse me.

MS. BRIZILL: Would you work in that
condition? Especially during COVID, when
people were supposed to be washing their hands,
and you don't have potable water for people to
wash their hands. Would you work in that
condition?

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: It's a public
meeting, everyone from the public is welcome to
comment, we limit comments, well, we try to,
for approximately three minutes. It's the same
way that the D.C. Council conducts their
committee and subcommittee hearings.

You've had well over 10 minutes now,
you know, to let us know your thoughts in a
couple rounds now. So thank you for being here. It's not really appropriate to have an open debate with you on a number of these issues. So it's time for me to turn --

MS. BRIZILL: They didn't want to seem to get down in the gutter, so if you want to get down in the gutter, Mr. Thompson, we can get down in the gutter, and I know I have an arsenal at my disposal that I can use, but you need to be removed as Chairman of the Board of Elections because you haven't got a clue --

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right.

MS. BRIZILL: -- you haven't got a clue what you're doing.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: So, thank you so much for your comment, and we'll see if there's other members of the public that would like to comment. Obviously, all citizens are entitled to information about our Board of Elections.

We receive information requests on a regular basis from yourself and many others. Often they're email requests. Sometimes
they're FOIA requests, and that they cite the FOIA statute. Sometimes they're on letterhead, sometimes they're phone calls.

We respond to the public's need for information. Anything we provide to the Council, any information, any reports that we have created is all transparent. It's all publicly available. Obviously, information about the warehouse is available, and that's important to us, and it's something that the Board of Elections takes very seriously and works very hard on a daily basis through our excellent public information officer and otherwise to respond to members of the public.

In your particular case I've seen your emails have been treated respectfully, and there have been responses to everything to I've seen. Nothing is being hidden, and we'll continue to respond to all requests from members of the public in the way the Board always has, thoroughly and efficiently, so thank you.
MS. STROUD: Ms. Brizill, to the extent again that there are requests that have not been responded to, I await your response to mine, which is that we have provided to my knowledge, all, you know, responded to all requests for information.

If there are records that you think we haven't disclosed, if there are requests that are outstanding, please bring them to my attention, and I'm happy to respond.

MS. BRIZILL: Tell me what you want the process to be going forward. An issue will come up or will be brought to my attention, and I will seek an answer or response from your public information office.

MS. STROUD: I'm addressing FOIA requests.

MS. BRIZILL: But hold on.

MS. STROUD: Let me finish, let me finish.

MS. BRIZILL: I want to ask this question. I want to ask this question.
MS. STROUD: And here's my answer to your question.

MS. BRIZILL: But I'm not even done with my question.

MS. STROUD: You're asking me about the process, we have a page on our website, which I think people have directed you to. We have a FOIA express portal, you can submit requests through that portal like other citizens do, like other people that have requested information do.

So if you go to that portal and submit your request for information, and we have records that are responsive, we will provide them. That is the process.

MS. BRIZILL: D.C. government, open government process, also speaks to making information available to citizens without the need to file a FOIA, okay? That has been an underlying principle of D.C. government since Muriel Bowser was chairman of the committee that passed the legislation.
In my case, when there are issues that come up, whether it's trying to get a copy of the report Mr. Sanford gave or what have you, I will send an email to Mr. Sanford, or I will send an email to the public information office or the Office of Campaign Finance.

I don't think I need to then draft a formal FOIA request, since it is already a document and information that has been disclosed, that is presumably readily available.

Now what you're telling me without letting me ask my question is when an issue arises I need to transmit that to the Board of Elections as a request that is a FOIA request, and that I cannot go through your public information office. Is that correct?

MS. STROUD: No, that's not what I said. I'm talking about FOIA requests, I'm talking about the section that you cited in the statute.

MS. BRIZILL: And I asked if an
issue comes up in a number of forms regarding the situation at the warehouse, and it comes up in reference to testimony Monica Evans gives at the Council during the budget hearing, but she only says it, and we plan to address the condition at the warehouse, I then say conditions at the warehouse, I become concerned because I know that's where you have moved and have your tabulation and view of mail-in ballots.

I then send an email to Mr. Jacobs saying, what is the situation at the warehouse? I know nothing more than that. What is the situation at the warehouse? That needs to be addressed. No, I want Ms. Stroud to answer this.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Now, hold on, hold on.

MS. BRIZILL: You cannot send an email to Mr. Jacobs asking for a situation at the warehouse? I have to convert that to a FOIA?
CHARIMAN THOMPSON: No, hold on. I think we get what you're saying. I think we've said what we need to say.

MS. BRIZILL: You haven't said anything.

CHARIMAN THOMPSON: You are free to communicate additional requests for information, whether you caption them as FOIA requests or they're just email requests, it doesn't matter either way, we're going to be responsive.

You have been asked to follow up with Ms. Stroud or with Mr. Jacobs if you think they're outstanding requests for information that haven't been answered. It's pretty straightforward. You've asked for information about various things including (audio interference) additional information that you need or that hasn't been provided, just send an email and ask for it.

I mean, that's it. Just follow up and ask us what else you would like to receive,
we don't need to debate whether something is formally a FOIA request or it's not a FOIA request.

MS. BRIZILL: It's an effort to find out what's really going on.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Okay.

MS. BRIZILL: We have a right to know what's going on.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All right. We've been going for twenty minutes, and it's not, you know, it's not really supposed to be a cross-examination. We have other members of the public that would like to make a comment, and we completely understand what you're saying about --

MS. BRIZILL: No, you don't, no you don't, because you don't want to.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: And I would like you to try to reflect on simply following up with a additional request for an information. By email is fine, you don't have to invoke FOIA, you can just send an email and ask for
whatever it is you think you need, and we'll be
responsive, and you can CC me on that email,
and I will --

MS. BRIZILL: I don't want to CC
you. You sent me an email saying please don't
CC me anymore on your emails to the Board of
Elections.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: That's not what
I said. I said, no, I said don't send --

MS. BRIZILL: Don't lie, because I
have the records.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I said don't
send emails to my private email, use my BOE
email address. So for FOIA purposes, we can
always have a record of communications with
myself and others affiliated with the BOE, but
anyway, so we'll sit tight and await your
further requests for information and of course
be responsive.

So anyway, okay, any other public
comment in here in our hearing room, so I'm now
turning to those with us by Zoom. Thank you
for your patience, and the mic belongs to anybody who would like to raise their Zoom hand.

All right. Any other comments from anybody else?

MR. BOGGS: I'll make a comment. You know, I'm the new kid on the block on this Board. I would just have to say, not as a response so much, but just an observation and a comment that I could not be more impressed with this group of commissioners and staff here, it makes my job very easy.

They're people with integrity and very professional. Before I came on the Board, I had high expectations based on people I knew involved with the Board, and my expectations have only been exceeded. And Gary, your role as Chairman of the Board here, it's a public service.

I think we should recognize folks for that, but you deal with folks civilly and professionally and -- as everybody here does.
So, again, I'm just pleased and proud to be a part of this organization.

I can be somewhat critical of particular government organizations from time to time, but this is one that I won't be critical of at all, I want to commend everybody I've met here and work with. So, I just wanted to make that comment.

And I think that the history of this organization I think bodes well for the future. Again, I'm just pleased and honored to be part of this group, and as far as the transparency, it seems that we have a lot of information available for anybody to see who has a computer and can Google public information, if not here, then other parts of the D.C. government that are available.

So, a lot of that information, you know, people can come to us directly, but it's available if you just sit down and pull it up on a public website, which I think is great too. To the extent that it's not available,
anybody's free to come to us and request that,
so I just wanted to share that observation.
Thank you.

MS. EVANS: Yes, and Mr. Chair, if I may have just a moment, I take exception to the statement that we are trying to hide information. In my personal life, in my professional life, I lead with integrity.

And to have such an accusation made, I just want to indicate that I do not agree with the accusation, and we have made efforts to become increasingly transparent and provide more information on our website, so I just wanted to state that for the record and thank you for allowing me that time.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you, Director Evans and Board Member Boggs. Karyn, do you have your hand raised?

MS. GREENFIELD: Yeah, I'm going to reiterate what J.C. said. This has been a fantastic Board. The people at the Board of Elections work very hard. I agree. I took
great umbrage at the fact that we're trying to
hide information, which is not what's being
done. And so I do take great exception to that
remark and exception to any remarks about you
not being competent to be the Chair of the
Board, you've been a fantastic Chair.

There's a lot that we have done,
there's a lot that we have to get done, and I
think this team has worked very hard towards
that, so I wanted to make sure everybody's
aware of that.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: Thank you so
much for saying that. Yes, I mean, obviously
our focus is on the election that's ahead of us
in 2024. With integrity and a lot of hard
work, we're going to get there.

The calendar is moving, important
dates will be upon us soon enough. We're
working hard on the voter registration list.
Everything that OCF has to do as candidates
start to position themselves will be critical.

So, you know, in a thousand
different ways, we're really looking forward to the 2024 election season and helping to administer and conduct a fair and transparent election as we did last year in 2022. It went off, I think, really, really well, and I'm really excited as this year goes by, as I look towards 2024.

And I'm excited and confident, because I know as J.C. mentioned, and has Karyn has mentioned, we've got an incredible agency. It really makes our job as Board members pretty easy on a day-to-day basis and during these monthly meetings, so, I guess with that, I would move we adjourn.

MR. BOGGS: Second.

CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: All in favor of adjourning?

(Chorus of aye.)

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 10:53 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Regular Board Meeting

Before: DC BOE

Date: 05-03-2023

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.

[Signature]
Court Reporter

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