

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

SUFFOLK, ss.

No. SJ-2020-

MARY BERTIN, CONCEPCION PACAS, WILLIE ARTHUR SCOTT, JR., TU TO
TRAC, NOELIA RODRIGUEZ, YI HUI WEI, SHU HONG ZHANG,
COMMON CAUSE, and MASS VOTE,

Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF MARY BERTIN
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Mary Bertin, do hereby state that the following is
true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

1. I am a registered voter in Massachusetts.
2. I am a Black woman, and I was born on September 25,
1946.
3. I was born in Dadeville, Alabama. I am a descendant of
slaves.
4. I grew up in Anniston, Alabama during segregation. I
remember segregated water fountains and bus stations.
5. My mother was actively involved in the Civil Rights
Movement.
6. As a teenager, I remember seeing the local bus station
bombed by white supremacists and the Ku Klux Klan when
Freedom Riders arrived in Anniston.

7. Growing up in Alabama, I also remember the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham on Sunday, September 15, 1963.
8. As a teenager, I saw firsthand Black elders being taught how to vote, registering to vote, and casting their votes for the very first time.
9. I have also traveled extensively, including to African countries such as Ghana to visit historical sites related to the enslavement of Black people. I have also traveled to South Africa to visit historical sites related to Nelson Mandela and liberation from Apartheid.
10. I have voted in every election since I was 18 years-old. I have never missed an election. I vote because I saw Black disenfranchisement firsthand.
11. I have lived in Boston since 1964, and I attended Northeastern University in the 1960s.
12. For nearly thirty years, I worked in the telecommunications field. I have also worked for Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I retired in 2013.
13. I intend to vote in the Massachusetts State Primary on September 1, 2020 and the General Election on November 3, 2020.
14. In addition to my age, I have several health conditions that place me at the highest risk for developing serious complications if I were to contract COVID-19. I have a compromised immune system. I am a survivor of anaplastic thyroid cancer, one of the most aggressive forms of cancer. I receive advanced treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I am also an insulin-dependent diabetic. I depend on life-saving medical equipment, including both a continuous insulin drop and a glucose monitor connected directly to my body. I also suffer from other conditions such as hypertension and high cholesterol. I experience mobility issues that prevent me from walking very far.
15. Due to my health conditions, I have self-isolated and quarantined for months. To protect myself, I limit the time I spend outside of my apartment. I am a devout Southern Baptist, but I even stopped going to church. I

also leave my mail and packages out for three days to minimize the risk of COVID-19 infection.

16. I have been in close contact with my doctors, including my oncologist, diabetes specialist and primary care provider, throughout the pandemic for constant monitoring. Due to COVID-19, doctors are very worried about me. I follow their recommendations closely.
17. Since I am considered very high risk for COVID-19, I am scared of being in close proximity to other people and I am scared of voting in person this Fall. I would like to vote by mail in the State Primary and the General Election.
18. I own an old computer and printer, but I am not very computer-literate. My printer is not working. I am not able to print the vote-by-mail ballot application.
19. If the Commonwealth does not send me the application to vote by mail, I am very worried that I will not be able to exercise my right to vote due to the risk of life-threatening COVID-19 infection and illness. Going out to vote in-person can kill me.

I declare under the penalty of perjury of the United States that the foregoing is correct and executed this 11 day of July, 2020.

/s/ Mary Bertin
Mary Bertin

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)

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SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

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TRAC, NOELIA RODRIGUEZ, YI HUI WEI, SHU HONG ZHANG,
COMMON CAUSE, and MASS VOTE,

Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF CONCEPCIÓN PACAS
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Concepción Pacas, do hereby state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

1. I am a registered voter in Massachusetts.
2. I am a Latina woman and mono-lingual Spanish speaker.
3. I was born on February 6, 1943, in Usulután, El Salvador.
4. In the 1980s, when the civil war broke out in El Salvador, I fled armed violence, shootings and death. I migrated to the United States seeking safety and refuge.
5. I am a U.S. Citizen. I proudly took my oath of citizenship in the federal court in Boston in 2008.
6. I became a U.S. Citizen to be able to fully participate in American democracy and to exercise all the rights and

responsibilities of U.S. citizenship, including the right to vote.

7. I vote in the Williams School in Chelsea, Massachusetts, the city where I live.
8. I love voting. It is an important part of being a U.S. citizen. But in this pandemic, the idea of leaving my home to vote scares me. When I think of crowds, it terrifies me. When I see people at all, I get frightened. My health makes me very vulnerable.
9. In addition to my age, I have significant underlying health conditions, including polymyositis and rheumatic disease, which severely limits my mobility. I also tend to experience painful falls. I last fell on Thursday, July 9, in my home.
10. Since I have limited mobility, I typically secure a car share ride to get to my polling site. With the pandemic, car shares scare me.
11. I live alone. Since the pandemic hit, I have been extremely cautious. My family members handle my grocery shopping and errands so I can avoid COVID-19 infection.
12. I intend to vote in the Massachusetts State Primary on September 1, 2020 and the General Election on November 3, 2020.
13. Since I am considered high risk for COVID-19, I am scared of being in close proximity to other people and I am scared of voting in person. I would like to vote by mail in the State Primary and the General Election.
14. I do not own a computer or printer. I am unable to access or print the vote-by-mail ballot application.
15. If the Commonwealth does not send me the application to vote by mail, I am afraid that I will not be able to exercise my right to vote due to COVID-19.
16. This affidavit was read to me in Spanish, and I swear it is true.

I declare under the penalty of perjury of the United States that the foregoing is correct and executed this 12 day of July, 2020.

/s/ Concepción Pacas
Concepción Pacas

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)

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COMMON CAUSE, and MASS VOTE,

Petitioners,
V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF WILLIE ARTHUR SCOTT, JR.
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Willie A. Scott, Jr., do hereby state that the following
is true to the best of my knowledge, information and
belief:

1. I am a registered voter in Massachusetts.
2. I am a Black man, and I was born in Georgia on June 30,
1944.
3. I have lived in Boston since 1954.
4. I try to vote in every election out of respect and
gratitude for those who fought for my right as a Black
man to vote. I grew up in a time when Black people were
unable to vote, and I remember seeing news footage of
people fighting for that right. Given the history, it is
my duty to vote.
5. I intend to vote in the Massachusetts State Primary on
September 1, 2020 and the General Election on November
3, 2020.

6. I receive Social Security and I currently live alone in Hampton House, a public housing development for elderly and disabled individuals leased under the Boston Housing Authority.
7. I previously worked as a truck driver until 1995 when I had to stop working due to a heart condition.
8. In addition to my age, I have several health conditions that put me at high risk for developing severe complications if I were to contract COVID-19. I received a heart transplant in 2002 and also suffer from diabetes and high blood pressure.
9. Due to my health conditions, I am very fearful to go out in public because people do not maintain the recommended six-foot distance. To protect myself, I limit the time I spend outside of my apartment and I try to run any errands at times when there will not be large crowds.
10. Because I am considered high risk for COVID-19, I am very fearful of voting in person this fall. I would like to vote by mail in the State Primary and the General Election.
11. I am not able to print the vote-by-mail ballot application. Although I own a computer, I do not know how to use it and I do not know if I have internet at home. Similarly, I have a printer, but because I am unable to use my computer, I do not use the printer. Others have tried to show me how to use the computer, but it is difficult for me to understand how to do it.
12. If the State does not send me the application to vote by mail, I am worried that I will not be able to safely exercise my right to vote out of fear of contracting COVID-19.

I declare under the penalty of perjury of the United States that the foregoing is correct and executed this 12th day of July 2020.

/s/ Willie Arthur Scott, Jr.
Willie Arthur Scott, Jr.

Signed w/approval
/s/Janelle H. Dempsey (BBO 699379)

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Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF TU TO TRAC
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Tu To Trac, declare as follows:

1. I am a registered voter in the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts. I live with my wife at 71C Martensen Street
in Quincy, MA.
2. I became a US citizen in 2008. I registered to vote after
that and I have regularly voted in elections since then.
It makes me proud to be a US citizen when I can vote.
3. I am 78 years old and only speak Cantonese. I do not speak
or read English.

4. I live with my wife in senior housing. I used to work as a carpet installer and in a supermarket, but I have been retired for some time now. We receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). It isn't much, but we are able to make do.
5. I would like to vote in the Primary and General Elections this Fall. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am very scared to leave my apartment these days. Basically, I try to avoid any place where people gather together. In addition to being older, I also have health problems that makes the prospect of getting infected with COVID-19 even more frightening for me. A number of years ago, I had an operation that removed a portion of my left lung, and I am overweight. I am very concerned that these conditions would place me at even higher risk of something bad happening if I got COVID-19, including the possibility that I might die from it.
6. My wife and I do not have a computer or a printer at our home. We have a smartphone but we don't use it to get onto the internet. We just use it for making phone calls and we really don't understand the internet. So we have no way of getting a vote-by-mail application off the internet. And even if we were able to do that, it would be hard for us to

pay for stamps to return the application. On our fixed income, any additional expense is a hardship.

7. I don't know what I would do if I am not able to vote-by-mail this Fall. I really want to vote like I have in the past but the idea of going out to the polls is just too scary right now. In all likelihood, if I can't vote-by-mail, I will just not vote. It doesn't seem right that I would have to choose between voting and keeping me and my wife healthy.

8. If I could vote-by-mail this Fall, I definitely would. I really hope the State sends me a vote-by-mail application in time for me to do that.

9. This affidavit was read to me in Cantonese, and I swear it is true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and executed this 12th day of July 2020.

/s/ Tu To Trac
Tu To Trac

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)

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COMMON CAUSE, and MASS VOTE,

Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF NOELIA RODRIGUEZ
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Noelia Rodriguez, do hereby state that the following is
true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

1. I am a registered voter in Massachusetts.
2. I am a Puerto Rican woman, and my primary language is Spanish.
3. I was born in 1954.
4. I have lived in Chelsea, Massachusetts for more than 30 years.
5. I suffer from respiratory problems and diabetes. I am being treated by physicians at the Massachusetts General Hospital HealthCare Center in Chelsea.

6. I also suffer from fibromyalgia and arthritis which affect my muscles and joints. Movement is painful for me. It hurts to walk.
7. I avoid leaving my home to prevent COVID-19 infection. My family runs my errands and helps with my grocery shopping.
8. I try to vote every year to exercise my rights and to keep elected officials accountable. My polling site is by the Prattville fire station near the corner Sagamore Avenue and Washington Avenue in Chelsea.
9. I intend to vote in the Massachusetts State Primary on September 1, 2020 and the General Election on November 3, 2020.
10. I usually take public transit – via an overcrowded bus – to go to vote. But I am not comfortable taking the bus during the pandemic. Due to my limited mobility, I would also have serious physical problems walking to the polling site.
11. Due to my compromised health and the risk of COVID-19 infection, I would like to vote by mail in the State Primary and the General Election.
12. I do not own a computer or printer. I am unable to access or print the vote-by-mail ballot application.
13. If the Commonwealth does not send me the application to vote by mail, I will not be able to exercise my right to vote due to COVID-19.
14. In telephone conversations with family members in Puerto Rico, I understand that mail-in voting is already underway. I do not understand why Puerto Rico can make mail-in voting arrangements but Massachusetts is delayed.
15. This affidavit was read to me in Spanish, and I swear it is true.

I declare under the penalty of perjury of the United States that the foregoing is correct and executed this 12 day of July, 2020.

_/s/ Noelia Rodriguez_____

Noelia Rodriguez

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)

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COMMON CAUSE, and MASS VOTE,

Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF YI HUI WEI
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Yi Hui Wei, declare as follows:

1. I am a registered voter in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I live with my wife at 63C Martensen Street in Quincy, MA.
2. I registered to vote soon after I became a US citizen over a decade ago. I vote regularly and am proud to be able to do so.
3. I am 75 years old and do not speak English, only Cantonese.
4. My wife and I are on a fixed income (Supplemental Security Income, or SSI). We do not own a computer or a printer.

We have a smartphone, but we only use it for making phone calls. We do not understand the internet.

5. I would very much like to be able to vote in this Fall's primary and general elections. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am very scared to go out to a polling place.
6. Because I am older, I know that I am at higher risk of severe illness or death if I were to contract COVID-19. I am also diabetic, so that increases my risk too. My wife is also elderly and at risk. For those reasons, my wife and I almost never leave our apartment to go out these days. We only go out when it is absolutely necessary, like to get groceries. We are extremely fearful of this virus and know that any time we leave our apartment, it increases the chance that we will become infected.
7. If we are able to vote by mail this Fall, we would definitely do that. If we could not vote by mail, I doubt we would go out to the polls to vote, because that would be too scary in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
8. We have no way to get a vote-by-mail application off the internet, because we don't have a computer and don't understand the internet. Even paying for stamps to mail in a vote-by-mail application would be extremely difficult for

us. As stated above, we are on a fixed income and that means that every penny counts for us.

9. I hope that the State mails us a vote-by-mail application like I understand they are supposed to. If they do, we will fill out that application so that we can vote-by-mail this Fall. If we don't receive that application in the mail, or it comes too late, I am very worried that we will not be able to vote at all this year. That would be sad for us, because we consider voting to be an important part of being American.

10. This affidavit was read to me in Cantonese, and I swear it is true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and executed this 12th day of July 2020.

/s/ Yi Hui Wei
Yi Hui Wei

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)

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Petitioners,

V.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, in his Official Capacity as
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF SHU HONG ZHANG
IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY PETITION FOR RELIEF

I, Shu Hong Zhang, declare as follows:

1. I am a registered voter in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I live with my wife at 75C Martensen Street in Quincy, MA.
2. I became a US citizen in 2016. One of the first things I did after becoming a citizen was register to vote. I consider that an important part of being a US citizen, and it makes me proud when I vote.
3. I am 69 years old and only speak Chinese (Cantonese). I do not speak or read English.

4. I live with my wife in senior housing. We receive Social Security benefits, in addition to Supplemental Security Income (SSI). That doesn't add up to much money, and it is hard for us to make ends meet, but we manage.
5. I vote regularly and want to be able to vote in the Primary and General Elections this Fall. However, because of the coronavirus, I am very concerned about going out to vote. I am older, and I also have diabetes, both of which I know place me at higher risk of getting very sick or even dying if I get infected with coronavirus. My wife is also elderly, so she is at risk, too.
6. For this reason, my wife and I severely limit any trips out of our apartment right now. We go out to get groceries and medicine when we need to, but that's it. We will not go out unless it is absolutely necessary.
7. I usually go to the same polling station to vote. But I would be very afraid to do that this year, because that would mean leaving my apartment and exposing myself to other people. That would increase my risk of getting coronavirus.
8. My wife and I don't have a computer or a printer. We do have a smartphone, but we only use it to make phone calls. We don't use it for the internet, which we don't really understand anyway. So even if there is a vote-by-mail

application on the internet, we would not be able to get it. Also, if we had to pay for stamps to mail back a vote-by-mail application, even if we were able to get one off a computer, that would be very difficult. We are on a fixed income and every single penny is an additional burden.

9. I want to be able to vote in the Primary and General Elections this fall. If I can't get an application to vote-by-mail, or don't get one in time, I am worried that I won't be able to vote-by-mail. If I am not able to vote-by-mail, I don't think it will be safe for me to vote.

10. I want to vote this Fall, but I also need to think about the safety of me and my wife. I don't want us to have to choose between voting and our health and safety.

11. This affidavit was read to me in Cantonese, and I swear it is true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and executed this 12th day of July 2020.

/s/ Shu Hong Zhong
Shu Hong Zhong

Signed w/approval
/s/Oren M. Sellstrom (BBO 569045)