



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 16, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Ms. Sarah Wishingrad and Ms. Khahilia Shaw
records@americanoversight.org

RE: Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Request

Dear Ms. Sarah Wishingrad and Ms. Khahilia Shaw:

This Office received your FOIA request dated February 16, 2021, which seeks:

All records reflecting any summaries, memoranda or analyses prepared or distributed by any personnel in the Attorney General's Office regarding the lawsuit *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, 592 U.S. ____ (2020).

Please provide all responsive records from November 3, 2020, through December 12, 2021.

On March 2, 2021, we provided a determination that there were responsive documents in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-30(C). The responsive documents are attached. Please be advised that certain documents are exempt from disclosure pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-40(a)(7) and certain personal information has been redacted pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-40(a)(2).

Sincerely yours,

Harley L. Kirkland
Assistant Deputy Attorney General

From: [Alan Wilson](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: Re: Supreme Court Decision
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:30:52 PM

Feel free to use whichever one you prefer

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse typos

On Dec 11, 2020, at 10:30 PM, Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov> wrote:

Perfect. I'll send it to him. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 11, 2020, at 10:29 PM, Alan Wilson <agwilson@scag.gov> wrote:

The Attorney General had a right and a duty to raise this issue to the court's attention on behalf of many voters in South Carolina who felt their votes were disenfranchised. The supreme court decided not to take the case in this office respects the Court's decision.

How bout that?

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse typos

On Dec 11, 2020, at 10:15 PM, Robert Kittle
<RKittle@scag.gov> wrote:

I don't know what, if anything, you want to say.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Patterson, Michael"
<mpatterson@wltx.com>
Date: December 11, 2020 at 8:29:10 PM
EST
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Supreme Court Decision

Hello Robert,

Wanted to see if Attorney General Wilson had a response to the Supreme Court's decision to not hear the Texas lawsuit. Please respond when you can. Thank you.

Michael Patterson
PM Executive Producer
<image001.png>

<image002.png>

| 6027 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

mpatterson@wltx.com | P. 803.647.0265 | C.
803.309.3639 | Twitter: @MikeMoPattis

From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [Alan Wilson](#)
Subject: Re: Supreme Court Decision
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:30:19 PM

Perfect. I'll send it to him. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 11, 2020, at 10:29 PM, Alan Wilson <agwilson@scag.gov> wrote:

The Attorney General had a right and a duty to raise this issue to the court's attention on behalf of many voters in South Carolina who felt their votes were disenfranchised. The supreme court decided not to take the case in this office respects the Court's decision.

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Michael Patterson
PM Executive Producer

<image001.png>

<image002.png>

| 6027 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

mpatterson@wltx.com | P. 803.647.0265 | C. 803.309.3639 | Twitter:

@MikeMoPattis

From: [Alan Wilson](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: Re: Possible response
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:30:12 PM

Your quote is good as well

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse typos

> On Dec 11, 2020, at 10:26 PM, Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov> wrote:

>

> What about something like this:

>

> We signed onto the brief asking the Supreme Court to hear Texas' lawsuit knowing it was a long shot, but we felt obligated to raise the question we did about whether states followed the Constitution in changing voting rules. Now that the Supreme Court has made its decision, we accept that and move on.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [Alan Wilson](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: Re: Supreme Court Decision
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:29:28 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

The Attorney General had a right and a duty to raise this issue to the court's attention on behalf of many voters in South Carolina who felt their votes were disenfranchised. The supreme court decided not to take the case in this office respects the Court's decision.

How bout that?

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Sent from my iPhone

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Date: December 11, 2020 at 8:29:10 PM EST
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Supreme Court Decision

Hello Robert,

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Michael Patterson
PM Executive Producer
<[image001.png](#)>

<[image002.png](#)>
| 6027 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

mpatterson@wltx.com | P. 803.647.0265 | C. 803.309.3639 | Twitter: [@MikeMoPattis](#)

From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [Alan Wilson](#)
Subject: Possible response
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:26:21 PM

What about something like this:

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Patterson, Michael](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: RE: Supreme Court Decision
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:48:14 PM

Thank you for replying so late.

From: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:34 PM
To: Patterson, Michael <mpatterson@wltx.com>
Subject: Re: Supreme Court Decision

CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Please use caution opening attachments and never share your password. Send suspicious email to infosec@tegn.com.

Hi Michael,

This is from me, the office spokesman:

“The Attorney General had a right and a duty to raise this issue to the Court’s attention on behalf of many voters in South Carolina who felt their votes were disenfranchised. The Supreme Court decided not to take the case and this office respects the Court’s decision.”

Thanks,

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

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Michael Patterson
PM Executive Producer
<image001.png>
<image002.png>
| 6027 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

mpatterson@wltx.com | P. 803.647.0265 | C. 803.309.3639 | Twitter: @MikeMoPattis

From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: rnelson@postandcourier.com; letters@postandcourier.com
Subject: Guest column/Op-Ed by Attorney General Wilson on election lawsuit amicus
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:21:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Why I joined the election lawsuit \(02447210xD2C78\).docx](#)
[AG garden wall headshot.jpg](#)

Hi Mr. Nelson,

I've attached a guest column/Op-Ed by Attorney General Alan Wilson about why he joined the election lawsuit. The Supreme Court may rule at any moment on whether to take the case but this Op-Ed is relevant no matter what, especially since it provides another perspective on the issue that your editorial board raised in its recent editorial on the subject.

Thank you for your consideration,

Robert



Robert Kittle

Communications Director

Office: (803) 734-3670

Cell: (803) 381-3453

rkittle@scag.gov

Rembert C. Dennis Building

1000 Assembly Street

Columbia, S.C. 29201



From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Outrage at lawsuit
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 1:45:00 PM

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for writing, and thank you especially for stating your objections in such a civil manner. We're getting a lot of negative comments on social media that are pretty over the top and I've reached the point of not even reading them.

I certainly understand your points, and if I didn't work here I would probably have the same thoughts. However, since I do work here I can see the reasons that Attorney General Wilson joined the amicus brief supporting Texas' request for the Supreme Court to hear its lawsuit.

There *is* a constitutional question here, and that's the whole reason he signed on. One of his main focuses is upholding the rule of law. Sometimes doing something a certain way can look like, or even be, the right thing to do, but it also needs to be done the right way. So, in this instance, expanding mail-in voting had a legitimate reason—the pandemic—but some states changed their voting rules without going through the proper procedures.

Article 2, Section 1 of the US Constitution gives state legislatures the power to choose electors for president, and also gives state legislatures the authority to decide the time, manner, and place for elections. But in some states, Secretaries of State or judges changed mail-in voting rules, like extending deadlines or saying ballots that weren't postmarked would still be accepted after Election Day. So that's the constitutional question: did those actions violate the Electors Clause of the US Constitution?

It's very possible, and most of the experts say likely, the Supreme Court won't see this as a big enough constitutional question to even hear the case. But AG Wilson's position is that he stands up for the rule of law, even if he catches a ton of flak for doing it and it would be a lot easier not to.

I've heard him use a football analogy, which ties in with what you wrote about going to Gamecock football games. The Gamecocks are behind by 5 with just a few seconds on the clock. The quarterback throws a long pass and the receiver catches it in the end zone, but the referee on the field says he was out of bounds, so no touchdown, game over, Gamecocks lose. All the AG is saying, in joining that amicus brief, is, "Mr. Ref, shouldn't you review the replay and make sure you got it right, and see whether his feet were really out of bounds?" If they do review it and say, "After further review, the ruling on the field stands. The receiver was out of bounds—incomplete pass, game over" then so be it. He'll accept that and shake the other team's hands and walk off the field.

And something else to point out, because a lot of people have complained about "spending taxpayer money" or "wasting my tax dollars" doing this, this did not cost any money. The Missouri AG's office wrote the amicus brief. They sent it to other AGs, including us. AG Wilson read it and so did a couple other attorneys, they may have suggested some edits, and then he signed it. That's it. It doesn't cost any money for him to read a brief and sign it. Going back to the football analogy, the TV cameras and

replay equipment are already there, so having the refs look at the replay doesn't cost anything.

He doesn't look at this as trying to overturn the votes of the people in those four states, he sees it as trying to protect *your* vote. If the people of another state can make arbitrary voting rules that might allow voting fraud, then your vote is negated. What if the Secretary of State in California decided to allow 16-year-olds in California to vote, since they're old enough to drive? Now he doesn't have the authority to do that, but let's say he did it and thousands of 16-year-olds voted illegally. That would denigrate your vote and mine. That's why Texas is saying there are cases in which one state may need to sue another state, or four others—to uphold the integrity of all states' votes, because what happens in one state affects the others, since president and vice president are the only offices that all states vote on.

I know this is unlikely to sway your opinion. Like I said, I completely understand your points, and those of others who are upset about this. But I hope it at least helps you understand where he's coming from and why he did what he did.

Thank you again for your kind words and your prayers, and I also pray you and your family will have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Sincerely,

Robert Kittle

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:09 AM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Outrage at lawsuit

Dear Mr. Kittle,

I write to you as a native South Carolinian but also as a fellow citizen of these great United States of America. While I am a relatively young voter compared to some, I am also a student of history and do not recall in a long time seeing such a display of poor sportsmanship of one partisan side after losing the election - in this case both in popular and electoral votes.

South Carolina has many issues as a state - the opioid crisis, poor education, domestic and child abuse, pedophilia, sex trafficking, child sex trafficking, hate crimes (which we fail to legislate against as if pretending they do not exist smokescreens other possible agendas in our state)... and I could go on for several paragraphs.

I chose to return to the state of my birth because I do love South Carolina, and her people; I believe that I can make a difference and help to better my state.

My father - who passed 10 years ago this April - was quite the War buff and I come from a family of courageous patriots and vets on both sides. In my education at home I was raised

steeped in the history and primary documents of the Civil War. What I see our state doing now feels oh so familiar to documentation I have read from our past - and not a past that I take pride in. My family fought vehemently not just for the South but to maintain our lifestyle of plantations at the forced enslavement of others who were treated as less than human.

This personal family history is in violation of the Christian principles that I hold dear. It is not a history that supports the dignity of human life. It is something we should reject - along with the behaviors of hatred that brought it about.

We can quibble day in and day out about whether this lawsuit initiated in Texas and now joined by our state of South Carolina has true constitutional merit, but if Trump were the "Victor" would you still be bringing this lawsuit? Do you bring this lawsuit because you believe Lindsey Graham stole his own election?

I have been a Gamecock fan all my life and have learned the dignity of losing and walking away with my self-respect and decency intact and my mouth shut as we made the walk through rainy parking lots full of celebrating Tiger fans. What is happening right now shames me and shames our state - again. Where is the grace in accepting the results of our election? Where is the heart and soul of the Republican party?

Soon, if South Carolina continues on this path, her native sons and daughters that have come home to help her will start making other choices about where to share talents. I fully expect SC reactions in some corners to be "good riddance", "go ahead and leave", "don't let the door hit ya....." etc.. But you and I know that at the end of the day, this propels our state down a path not of long term success, but of intolerance, ignorance, and eventually failure.

What has happened to our backbone? Our integrity? Our ability to see each other as brothers and sisters? This is the scariest element of the Civil War that I see now - this division and failure to accept the will of the American people. Please stop. We have so much room to grow if we will only get out of our own way.

I have no expectations that you will even read this letter - but I feel compelled not to follow the example of Jonah this close to Christmas and be eaten up by some proverbial whale. I pray for you and your staff at this time that God soften your hearts and lead you to put your efforts towards helping South Carolina's struggling citizens who are in need of the help of the office of the AG.

May the peace of this holiday season be a blessing to you, your friends, and family

██████████

From: [Smithson, Katie](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: RE: WYFF Request - AG Wilson Statement
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:16:53 PM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Robert,

Got it - thank you for your response!

Katie



Katie SMITHSON

News Producer

(864) 240-5289
kj davidson@hearst.com

505 Rutherford Street
Greenville, SC 29609
www.wyff4.com



From: Robert Kittle
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Smithson, Katie
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: WYFF Request - AG Wilson Statement

Hi Katie,

We have not joined the lawsuit yet. The court filing applies only IF the Supreme Court does agree to hear the Texas lawsuit. If it does, then we have asked to be interveners only on the question of whether states followed the electors clause in the US Constitution.

Our concern is about following the rule of law. Article 2, Section 1 of the US Constitution says state legislatures shall appoint their electors for president "in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct." But the Texas lawsuit argues that in the four states in question, people or groups other than the legislature changed voting rules, which could be unconstitutional. We think that's a question for the Supreme Court to answer.

Thanks,

Robert

From: Smithson, Katie <kj davidson@hearst.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: WYFF Request - AG Wilson Statement

Good afternoon,

Does AG Wilson have a statement on a court filing by several states, including South Carolina, to join Texas as a plaintiff in the lawsuit regarding Pennsylvania, Georgia, Michigan, and Wisconsin?

Thank you!
Katie



Katie SMITHSON

News Producer

(864) 240-5289
kj davidson@hearst.com

505 Rutherford Street
Greenville, SC 29609
www.wyff4.com



From: [DeLinda Ridings](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#); [Valerie Ingram](#)
Subject: RE: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:17:37 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

I do. I have shared it via social media. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DeLinda Ridings,
Executive Assistant
Office of the Attorney General
State of South Carolina
Rembert C. Dennis Building
Office: (803) 734-3596



From: Robert Kittle
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:17 PM
To: DeLinda Ridings ; Valerie Ingram
Subject: FW: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit

Just making sure you both have this.

From: Robert Kittle <rkittle@scag.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit



AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit

(COLUMBIA, S.C.) - As S.C. Attorney General, I am committed to protecting our voters against disenfranchisement as well as ensuring election integrity.

That's why, in 2012, I successfully defended our state's voter ID law in federal court. Last month, my office filed a brief with nine other state attorneys general in a Pennsylvania voting lawsuit that's now pending in the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Supreme Court will soon weigh in on the State of Texas' suit for alleged unconstitutional acts in four states. Today, we are joining with 16 other state attorneys general in filing an amicus brief in the Supreme Court supporting the State of Texas' pleadings.

Regardless of your ideological beliefs, we must all agree that free and fair elections are the keystone of democracy. Our Constitution's election clauses must be followed, and the Constitution must be a guiding light for fair elections to continue to take place. Our values and the rule of law are worth defending.

You can read the states' amicus brief [here](#).

-END-

Contact:
Robert Kittle
803.734.3670
rkittle@scag.gov



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This message was sent to rkittle@scag.gov from rkittle@scag.gov

Robert Kittle
SCAG
1000 Assembly Street Room 519
Columbia, SC 29201



From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [DeLinda Ridings](#); [Valerie Ingram](#)
Subject: FW: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:16:00 PM

Just making sure you both have this.

From: Robert Kittle <rkittle@scag.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 9, 2020

AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit

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-END-

Contact:
Robert Kittle
803.734.3670
rkittle@scag.gov



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This message was sent to rkittle@scag.gov from rkittle@scag.gov

Robert Kittle
SCAG
1000 Assembly Street Room 519
Columbia, SC 29201



From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: Statement: AG Alan Wilson's statement on Texas election lawsuit
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:01:07 PM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 9, 2020

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-END-

Contact:
Robert Kittle
803.734.3670
rkittle@scag.gov



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This message was sent to **rkittle@scag.gov** from **rkittle@scag.gov**

Robert Kittle
SCAG
1000 Assembly Street Room 519
Columbia, SC 29201



From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [Will Folks](#)
Subject: Embargoed statement
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 2:19:00 PM
Attachments: [AG statement on Texas voting lawsuit \(02444534xD2C78\).docx](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi Will,

We're going to be sending this out at some point this afternoon but wanted to give you a heads-up.

I'll let you know when you can publish.

Thanks,

Robert



Robert Kittle

Communications Director
Office: (803) 734-3670
Cell: (803) 381-3453
rkittle@scag.gov
Rembert C. Dennis Building
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201



From: [Bishop, Kevin \(L. Graham\)](#)
To: [Robert Kittle](#)
Subject: RE: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:57:43 AM

Gotcha....

From: Robert Kittle
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:56 AM
To: Bishop, Kevin (L. Graham)
Subject: RE: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement

Hi Kevin,

At this point we're looking at what Texas filed and are discussing next steps. We did join an amicus in one of the lawsuits in Pennsylvania, the one questioning the constitutionality of the Pennsylvania courts extending the timeline for accepting votes rather than the legislature doing that, but we haven't made a decision yet about the Texas lawsuit.

Robert

From: Bishop, Kevin (L. Graham) <Kevin_Bishop@lgraham.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: RE: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement

Does the AG support some of these lawsuits RE: 2020 election, like Texas?

If so we were going to say something positive about it. But didn't want to get too far in front of our skis.

Let me know.

From: Bishop, Kevin (L. Graham)
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2020 7:00 PM
To: 'Robert Kittle' <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: RE: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement

Got it...thank you.

From: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2020 6:02 PM
To: Bishop, Kevin (L. Graham) <Kevin_Bishop@lgraham.senate.gov>
Subject: FW: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement

From: Chip Payne <cpayne@scag.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 29, 2020 12:12 PM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY: AG Wilson to make major announcement



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2020

AG Wilson to make major announcement

(COLUMBIA, SC) - Attorney General Alan Wilson will hold a news conference Monday, August 31st at 11 a.m. at the Statehouse to make a major announcement about an ongoing state lawsuit against the federal government.

We plan to stream the news conference on Facebook Live on the Attorney General's Office's Facebook page but we hope you'll be able to send a crew to get video, sound, and photos. We'll be following health guidelines by wearing masks and practicing social distancing as much as possible.

WHO: Attorney General Alan Wilson, Gov. Henry McMaster, Sen. Lindsey Graham, Congressman Joe Wilson

WHAT: News conference to announce major update in lawsuit against federal government

WHEN: 11:00 a.m. Monday, Aug. 31, 2020

WHERE: South Carolina Statehouse, Second Floor Rotunda
Columbia, SC

#

Robert Kittle
Communications Director
803.734.3670
rkittle@scag.gov



[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to rkittle@scag.gov from cpayne@scag.gov

Chip Payne
SCAG
1000 Assembly Street Room 519
Columbia, SC 29201



From: [Robert Kittle](#)
To: [Alan Wilson](#)
Subject: Fwd: Outrage at lawsuit
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 6:41:50 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Date: December 11, 2020 at 1:45:00 PM EST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Outrage at lawsuit

Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

Thank you for writing, and thank you especially for stating your objections in such a civil manner. We're getting a lot of negative comments on social media that are pretty over the top and I've reached the point of not even reading them.

I certainly understand your points, and if I didn't work here I would probably have the same thoughts. However, since I do work here I can see the reasons that Attorney General Wilson joined the amicus brief supporting Texas' request for the Supreme Court to hear its lawsuit.

There *is* a constitutional question here, and that's the whole reason he signed on. One of his main focuses is upholding the rule of law. Sometimes doing something a certain way can look like, or even be, the right thing to do, but it also needs to be done the right way. So, in this instance, expanding mail-in voting had a legitimate reason—the pandemic—but some states changed their voting rules without going through the proper procedures.

Article 2, Section 1 of the US Constitution gives state legislatures the power to choose electors for president, and also gives state legislatures the authority to decide the time, manner, and place for elections. But in some states, Secretaries of State or judges changed mail-in voting rules, like extending deadlines or saying ballots that weren't postmarked would still be accepted after Election Day. So that's the constitutional question: did those actions violate the Electors Clause of the US Constitution?

It's very possible, and most of the experts say likely, the Supreme Court won't see this as a big enough constitutional question to even hear the case. But AG Wilson's position is that he stands up for the rule of law, even if he catches a ton of flak for doing it and it would be a lot easier not to.

I've heard him use a football analogy, which ties in with what you wrote about going to Gamecock football games. The Gamecocks are behind by 5 with just a few seconds on the clock. The quarterback throws a long pass and the receiver catches it in the end zone, but the referee on the field says he was out of bounds, so no touchdown, game over, Gamecocks lose. All the AG is saying, in joining that amicus brief, is, "Mr. Ref, shouldn't you review the replay and make sure you got it right, and see whether his feet were really out of bounds?" If they do review it and say, "After further review, the ruling on the field stands. The receiver was out of bounds—incomplete pass, game over" then so be it. He'll accept that and shake the other team's hands and walk off the field.

And something else to point out, because a lot of people have complained about "spending taxpayer money" or "wasting my tax dollars" doing this, this did not cost any money. The Missouri AG's office wrote the amicus brief. They sent it to other AGs, including us. AG Wilson read it and so did a couple other attorneys, they may have suggested some edits, and then he signed it. That's it. It doesn't cost any money for him to read a brief and sign it. Going back to the football analogy, the TV cameras and replay equipment are already there, so having the refs look at the replay doesn't cost anything.

He doesn't look at this as trying to overturn the votes of the people in those four states, he sees it as trying to protect *your* vote. If the people of another state can make arbitrary voting rules that might allow voting fraud, then your vote is negated. What if the Secretary of State in California decided to allow 16-year-olds in California to vote, since they're old enough to drive? Now he doesn't have the authority to do that, but let's say he did it and thousands of 16-year-olds voted illegally. That would denigrate your vote and mine. That's why Texas is saying there are cases in which one state may need to sue another state, or four others—to uphold the integrity of all states' votes, because what happens in one state affects the others, since president and vice president are the only offices that all states vote on.

I know this is unlikely to sway your opinion. Like I said, I completely understand your points, and those of others who are upset about this. But I hope it at least helps you understand where he's coming from and why he did what he did.

Thank you again for your kind words and your prayers, and I also pray you and your family will have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Sincerely,

Robert Kittle

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:09 AM
To: Robert Kittle <RKittle@scag.gov>
Subject: Outrage at lawsuit

Dear Mr. Kittle,

I write to you as a native South Carolinian but also as a fellow citizen of these great United States of America. While I am a relatively young voter compared to some, I am also a student of history and do not recall in a long time seeing such a display of poor sportsmanship of one partisan side after losing the election - in this case both in popular and electoral votes.

South Carolina has many issues as a state - the opioid crisis, poor education, domestic and child abuse, pedophilia, sex trafficking, child sex trafficking, hate crimes (which we fail to legislate against as if pretending they do not exist smokescreens other possible agendas in our state)... and I could go on for several paragraphs.

I chose to return to the state of my birth because I do love South Carolina, and her people; I believe that I can make a difference and help to better my state.

My father - who passed 10 years ago this April - was quite the War buff and I come from a family of courageous patriots and vets on both sides. In my education at home I was raised steeped in the history and primary documents of the Civil War. What I see our state doing now feels oh so familiar to documentation I have read from our past - and not a past that I take pride in. My family fought vehemently not just for the South but to maintain our lifestyle of plantations at the forced enslavement of others who were treated as less than human.

This personal family history is in violation of the Christian principles that I hold dear. It is not a history that supports the dignity of human life. It is something we should reject - along with the behaviors of hatred that brought it about.

We can quibble day in and day out about whether this lawsuit initiated in Texas and now joined by our state of South Carolina has true constitutional merit, but if Trump were the "Victor" would you still be bringing this lawsuit? Do you bring this lawsuit because you believe Lindsey Graham stole his own election?

I have been a Gamecock fan all my life and have learned the dignity of losing and walking away with my self-respect and decency intact and my mouth shut as we made the walk through rainy parking lots full of celebrating Tiger fans. What is happening right now shames me and shames our state - again. Where is the grace in accepting the results of our election? Where is the heart and soul of the Republican party?

Soon, if South Carolina continues on this path, her native sons and daughters that have come home to help her will start making other choices about where to share talents. I fully expect SC reactions in some corners to be "good riddance", "go

ahead and leave", "don't let the door hit ya...." etc.. But you and I know that at the end of the day, this propels our state down a path not of long term success, but of intolerance, ignorance, and eventually failure.

What has happened to our backbone? Our integrity? Our ability to see each other as brothers and sisters? This is the scariest element of the Civil War that I see now - this division and failure to accept the will of the American people. Please stop. We have so much room to grow if we will only get out of our own way.

I have no expectations that you will even read this letter - but I feel compelled not to follow the example of Jonah this close to Christmas and be eaten up by some proverbial whale. I pray for you and your staff at this time that God soften your hearts and lead you to put your efforts towards helping South Carolina's struggling citizens who are in need of the help of the office of the AG.

May the peace of this holiday season be a blessing to you, your friends, and family

