

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR  
THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
GREENBELT DIVISION**

MS. PATRICIA FLETCHER, )  
*et al.*, )  
 )  
 )  
 Plaintiffs, )  
 )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 LINDA LAMONE in her official )  
 capacity as State Administrator of )  
 Elections for the state of Maryland; )  
 And ROBERT L. WALKER in his )  
 official capacity as Chairman of the )  
 State Board of Elections, )  
 )  
 Defendants. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Civ. Action No.: RWT-11-3220

**DECLARATION OF SHERRY STROTHERS**

I, Sherry Strother, declare based on personal knowledge and experience and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

1. I am an African-American resident of Landover in Prince George's County, Maryland. I have lived in Prince George's County since 1983. I am a registered nurse employed by a Prince Health Agency as a Nurse Supervisor.
2. I will graduate with a Bachelor's in Nursing from Indiana State University on December 17, 2011. I also have an Associate's Degree in Nursing from Prince George's County Community College and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Liberty University.
3. The infant mortality rate in Prince George's County is three times greater amongst African Americans than others. African Americans make up 87% of the AIDS cases. The County does not have the infrastructure to address the problem as compared to other non-African


American communities. For instance there are only 3-4 AIDS testing sites in the County as compared to dozens or more in surrounding counties. It feels like African Americans are losing ground in the health arena.

4. I have worked in the immunization clinic for a County Public Health Agency. There had been a requirement to receive county services you had to show proof of county residence. This requirement was not enforced and became known to the public that outsiders could get benefits in Prince George's County. This led to African American Prince George's County residents not being able to obtain services because non-African American people who did not live in the county were monopolizing the services.
5. There are not many options in African American communities for sit down restaurants, shopping, or movie theaters. In non-African American communities surrounding Prince George's County there are options for families to eat and entertainment. We are forced to go outside our community if we want choices. Those options in my community are generally of poor quality.
6. I have unsuccessfully run for Prince George's County School Board, for County Council and for the House of Delegates in District 24. I learned through these experiences that in order to obtain support of the party and elected leadership such as Senate President Mike Miller, you have to be interviewed and pass the lithium test.
7. African Americans in Prince George's County know that they won't be picked to be on the Democratic Party slate – the only real way to get elected – if they don't do as they are told.
8. It is known in my community that the congressional maps passed by the Legislature were intended to harm Congresswoman Donna Edwards.

9. I testified at a County Council Redistricting Advisory Commission Hearing held in Upper Marlboro in the County Administration Building. I discussed the outrage that the New Carrollton Metro Station would be pulled out of the community. I said this was racially motivated. African Americans regularly use that metro station and nobody cared about it until it was slated for development. Now that money is going to be spent to develop the area it was redistricted out of our community. The audience clapped in response to my testimony. I did not get the impression that the members of the Commission took my testimony into consideration. Rather it appeared to me that they had already made up their minds.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 6, 2011.

  
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Sherry Strothers