

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

PATRICIA FLETCHER, *et al.*

Plaintiffs,

v.

Civil Action No: 8:11-cv-03220-RWT

LINDA H. LAMONE, *et al.*

Defendants.

* * * * *

**STATE DEFENDANTS’ RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFFS’
PROPOSED SCHEDULING ORDER**

Defendants Linda H. Lamone and Robert L. Walker (“the State”), by their undersigned attorneys, respond to Plaintiffs’ proposed scheduling order and state as follows:

1. On Monday, November 21, 2011, Plaintiffs filed a proposed schedule for the resolution of this case.
2. After further consultation, the Plaintiffs and the State have agreed to propose to the Three-Judge Panel that the State will file its Opposition to the “Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Injunction as to Counts Three and Six of the Complaint” on Friday, December 2, 2011.
3. The State plans to file other dispositive motions on that date as well.

4. The parties further agree that all testimony in this matter will be submitted in the form of affidavits. The parties waive the right to present in-person testimony unless specifically requested by the Panel.

5. The parties agree that a hearing on the motion for preliminary injunction is not necessary but, should the Panel wish to hear oral argument, the parties respectfully submit that such argument could be held on December 5, 6, or 7.

6. It is the State's contention that all litigation in this matter must be concluded by December 14, 2011, to permit the orderly preparation for the Presidential primary election to be held on April 3, 2011. The State will provide affidavits and legal support for this position in connection with its December 2 filings. The State will at that time provide a proposed schedule for responses to any dispositive motions it files, any replies thereto, and any oral argument on the motions.

7. A proposed order for the proceedings concerning Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction as to Counts Three and Six of the Complaint is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUGLAS F. GANSLER
Attorney General of Maryland

/s/

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Dated: November 27, 2011