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Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (AIRC) wins Leach v. AIRC Lawsuit

Thursday, March 16, 2017

This morning, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Roger Brodman granted summary judgment to the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission on every claim raised by the Plaintiffs in *Leach, et. al. v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission*, which is the only remaining challenge to the Commission's mapping process this decade. The Plaintiffs made multiple allegations that the Commission violated the procedural and open meeting requirements governing the redistricting process when drafting and finalizing the Congressional map.

The Judge issued a 19 page decision that denied plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment and granted the Commission's request for summary judgment on all counts. In rejecting the Plaintiffs' claims, the Judge held that the record supported the Commission's process and refused to second guess the discretionary judgments of the commissioners.

The Commission's chair Colleen Mathis commented, "Judge Brodman's ruling today is not only a broad victory for the Commission, but a victory for the Arizona voters who established the independent redistricting process in 2000."

The Commission has 20 days from the filing date of this ruling to submit a proposed form of judgment. The Congressional map will remain in place, and the Commission's activity will cease upon conclusion of this case.

Leach is one of five lawsuits filed during this redistricting process. The Commission has prevailed in all of them.

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